



Explorers

3–5s



Get Going

Choose what works best for you.
Option 1 works well if you can make a noise without disturbing other groups.

Option 2 works well if you don't have a lot of space to move around in.

- My King (How Cool is That! – Johnny Burns)

➡ **Link:** Jesus is God's promised king and he is amazing. That is why we praise him!

Option 1

Sing a song of praise with the children. Make up some actions for the little ones to copy. If the song is quite fast and wordy then focus on one main sentence the children can say and do actions to. Let them have fun dancing to the rest of it. Talk about the truths in the song that tell us how amazing Jesus is.

Song suggestions:

- Long Live the King (Get Ready – Dr Rocktrin and the Groovemeisters, Emu Music)
- Super Saviour (Super Saviour – Colin Buchanan)
- Who's the King of the Jungle (10, 9, 8...God is Great – Colin Buchanan)

Option 2

Who would you like to meet and why?

If the children could meet their favourite character, who would it be and why? Show pictures of book/TV/movie characters to give ideas. Ask for suggestions of their favourites. Why do they like them? Do they have special powers or are they kind/funny/adventurous? Talk about why they think these characters are so great and how exciting it would be to meet them. What would you say to them?

➡ **Link:** Jesus is God's promised king. In today's story, people shouted out about Jesus because they were so excited to see him.



Take 10 minutes to focus!

What praises do you want the children to be saying about Jesus? How will you help them to know those truths about him?



Teaching Time

Can you find something to be the donkey that a child would ride on? You could use a scooter, a chair on wheels or a large plastic box that slides along the floor or a leader on all fours. Have the children got some jumpers or coats to lay

on the floor in front of Jesus?

Have a child pretend to be Jesus on the donkey. All the other children can practise singing, dancing and shouting praise to Jesus. Give them words to shout, "Jesus is God's king!" and, "Thank God

continued ➡

→
continued

for our king.” They can use different ways to show how excited they are; dancing, shouting, singing their favourite worship song.

Then they can practise being the angry Pharisees. Can they make an angry face? Tell them to shout at Jesus, “Tell them to stop singing!” and “He’s not the king!”

Have the child act out Jesus’ response “If they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.” The rest of the children can pretend to be shouting stones – the children will enjoy how silly it is for stones to be shouting.

Once you have gone through the story, make sure you tell the children a

point or two about what this story teaches us about Jesus. Keep in mind the **Big Idea** and the questions you thought through in **Take 10 minutes to focus**. Try to keep this short and simple. A way to help the children remember the main teaching point is to teach it to them as a memory sentence. Come up with a short sentence that sums up the main teaching point and get the children to repeat it back to you a few times.

Try something different:

Play the children a sketch about speaking stones from the Faith in Kids podcast. This can be found in Faith in KIDS #1 The Return of the King (14 January 2019). Play from 11:16 (finishes at 14:26).



Brain Break

Play Time

Give each child a chance to pretend to be Jesus riding in on a donkey like you did in Teaching Time. As each child has their turn, the other children cheer and shout.

Can they remember what they shouted to Jesus? Can they remember how they felt? Can they dance as they shout? You could play a worship song for them to sing.



Heart & Hands

Craft Time

Decorate a Singing Stone. The children can paint, decorate or draw on a small stone as if it’s singing praise to Jesus. Ask them what it would be shouting out to Jesus. What would they like to shout out to Jesus? This is your opportunity to make things personal. Use this craft time to reinforce the **Big Idea** of the lesson to get them ready for **Think Time**.

Think Time

Use the illustrations to help the

children remember the story. Help them to see the different responses of people to Jesus when he arrived in Jerusalem.

1 Big Question: Why did the crowds shout praise at Jesus? *Because he is God’s amazing king!*

A follow up question: What would you like to shout to Jesus?

Pray

Dear Father, thank you for our amazing king, Jesus. Amen.