

D/G CIRCUS SPECTACULAR: A DESIGN

SESSION 37: "THE PARADE" (*a Palm Sunday tableau*)

BIBLICAL BASIS: Mark 1:1-11a; et al, Matthew 21:1-11, Luke 19:29-38

PROJECT: taking part in telling story of "salvation week;" and its beginning with a circus "grand entrance" (ie parade) introducing the "great" thing about to happen.

AVAILABLE TIME: @ 30 MINUTES.

POINT OF LESSON: sharing the meaning of a week called "holy."

1. Calliope plays 1 verse of "On Our Way Rejoicing," LBW260.
2. At @ 9:20am, children dismissed with "the Big Ticket" of respect, responsibility, reverence for entrance into "the Big Top."
3. Children welcomed, admitted.
4. 3-ring action including:

RING 1

CENTER RING

RING 2

D/G VIDEO PLAYING:
"The Parade" or
"The Runaway"

ASK: Do you like parades? Rx
Were you ever in a parade?
Where? What kind?
How did you feel being in a
parade?
[OR]
If you weren't in a parade, how
did that make you feel?

THEN SAY: Today, we're going to
have our very own parade.
All circuses had their very own
parades as the circus came
to town or as the "big" show
was about to begin when all
the people taking part in it
walked in.
A parade says that something
really great is about to
happen, so, get ready.

BUT, before we begin our parade
let's practice a bit, making
believe that we are the
acrobats, or trapeze artists
or high wire aerialists who

perform feats of wonder
and awe high above the
ground.

[PRACTICE WITH STYLE, ALWAYS
WITH "TA DA!" STYLE]

[TURN ON CD PLAYER PLAYING
"ENTRY OF THE GLADIATORS,"
BEGIN MARCHING AROUND
ROOM...WITH "STYLE!" AS IF
ENTERING THE "BIG TOP"]

[WHEN FINISHED SAY:]

WOW! That was fun! I like being in
a parade. And Jesus was in a
parade too. Let's go to the center
ring and I'll tell you about it.

[MOVE TO CENTER RING]

Now, the story I'm going to tell you is about
Jesus coming into a city named Jerusalem.
Jerusalem means: "city of peace."
Great things were about to happen.
And, I need your help in telling it.
When we get to those parts, I'll let you know
and tell you what to do. Okay?

[LET KIDS RESPOND]

So, one day, Jesus came into Jerusalem
...riding a donkey: a "beast of burden,"
...[MAKE SOUND OF A
DONKEY: "ee-ow, ee-ow"]
...but in Jesus' time it was what
a great warrior rode when
returning from winning a great
battle,
...a crowd of people greeted him, shouting:
...shout with me a Hebrew word,
"hallelujah" which means "praise
the Lord" [ALL SHOUT TOGETHER:
"HALLELUJAH! PRAISE THE
LORD! HALLELUJAH!"]
...and the crowds spread their garments on the road,
...as well as cutting palm branches, laying them in the
sand before him, shouting,
...shout with me again another Hebrew
word, "hosanna," which means
..."pray, save us."

[ALL SHOUT TOGETHER:
"HOSANNA! PRAY SAVE US!
HOSANNA!"]

And that's why he had that "parade" that day.
A day we call "Palm Sunday."
For that's the great thing that was about to happen.
To be unveiled during the rest of the week that
would be called "holy."

A week focusing in on:
...making us right with God (ie "salvation"),
...so we can fully enjoy the great parade,
...called life,
...and the awesome things
to come in it.

Thank you to each of you for helping me to tell
this story today.
I hope you will share it with others too.

[HAVE KIDS DRAW THEMSELVES WITH JESUS
IN THE PALM SUNDAY PARADE]

[CLOSE WITH AN ECHO PRAYER:]

Loving God, help us to shout
with joy your praise: "hallelujah,"
and "hosanna" for your love for
us through the gift of your son,
Jesus. Amen.