

## READ IT

This week's Bible story is

### **Holy Week**

from Matthew 21:1-11;

Matthew 26:14—27:66.

#### **Jesus defeated death and sin on the cross—his death means life for me!**

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Peter
- Palm branches
- Simon
- Cross
- Curtain in the temple

The week before Easter is Holy Week. Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, the day Jesus rode into Jerusalem as the crowd cheered, waving palm branches. Holy Week also includes Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday.

#### **Read the whole story together in the Bible!**

*Spark Story Bible* pages 454-457, 462-481

*Spark Bible* pages 1092-1097

#### **Family Prayer**

Dear Jesus, thank you for loving us. Help us to love others. Amen.

## TALK ABOUT IT



### **Family Conversations**

- 1** Jesus was very brave. He trusted God to know the right thing to do. Have you ever had to be brave? Tell about a time you had to be brave to do the right thing.
- 2** It's not always easy to do the right thing. Tell about a time when doing the right thing meant people might not like you or might think you were weird.
- 3** Has someone you trust ever betrayed you? Were you able to forgive that person, like Jesus was able to forgive Judas?
- 4** Create a meal like the Last Supper for your family. Have bread, a simple meat or cheese, and grape juice instead of wine. Turn off all the lights and eat by candle light. Talk about how the disciples might have felt during the Last Supper.



### **Eye Spark**

There are crosses all around us every day. You can see them in jewelry, buildings, and on signs. This week, look for crosses. Each time you see one, remember that Jesus died on a cross for you.



### **Ear Spark**

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, crowds cheered and shouted. Later, they were happy to see Jesus die. When you hear a group of people making loud noise, pray, "Thank you, Jesus, for being in my life."

## LIVE IT

### **For families to do together**

Make a forgiveness jar with your family. Decorate the outside of a clean food jar with paper, glue, and ribbon. Keep the jar in your living room or kitchen with paper nearby. Whenever someone in your family feels they need forgiveness, they can write their feelings on a piece of paper and drop it in the jar. When they do, they can ask God for forgiveness through Jesus.

### **For younger kids**

Make palm leaves from construction paper. Place them throughout the house to show excitement about Jesus.

### **For older kids**

Use a word processing program to create a miniature book that details what happened on each day during Holy Week. Leave room to draw or paste pictures. Share the book with your family and friends.