

Children's Palm Sunday Message

Place a piece of red carpet in front of the children, and ask them if they have ever heard the expression “roll out the red carpet.” Let them give you their impressions. Explain that the expression comes from a time when people would actually roll out a long red carpet for an important guest who was arriving for a visit, so that the guest could walk from his car to the building without getting his feet dirty. Tell them that it may have been done first by a man in India who was receiving a visit from the emperor in the 1600s — he covered the road between the palace and his house with carpets, so that the emperor would not have to touch the ground. Ask the children if you have to use an actual red carpet to “roll out the red carpet.” No! Let them know that you can show respect to your guests in many ways — by welcoming them warmly, throwing them a party, serving them a good meal. Have the children raise their hands if they think the people of Jerusalem “rolled out the red carpet” for Jesus. Stress that they showed their respect by spreading their cloaks on the road, praising God joyfully, and welcoming Jesus as a king (Luke 19:36-38). Ask the children what we can do to show our respect for Jesus today. Suggest that we can wave palm branches, praise God, and accept him as our King — in all these ways, we “roll out the red carpet” for Jesus.