Puzzled: Believe there's a bigger picture

First, watch this week's video!

Hope: Believing that something good can come out of something bad

Memory Verse

"In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world." John 16:33b, NIrV

Bible Story

Palm Sunday John 12:9-16

Key Question

What are you hoping for?

Use this guide to help your family learn about hope.

Activity

Secret Artist

What You Need:

No supplies needed

What You Do:

Have your child face away from you, with their back turned toward you. Use your finger to draw each item from the list below on their back. See if they can guess all of the items correctly . . . and take time to discuss how each one ties into the story.

- Donkey (Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem.)
- ► Palm branch (People waved palm branches to honor Jesus, and laid the branches down in front of Him.)
- Coat (People placed their coats on the ground in front of Jesus. The disciples also put their coats on the donkey for Jesus to sit on.)
- The letter Z (This represents Zechariah 9:9.
 Read the Zechariah passage and discuss how Jesus fulfilled these words when He arrived in Jerusalem.)
- ► Exclamation point (People shouted "Hosanna!" to honor Jesus.)

Talk About the Bible Story

How did Jesus arrive in Jerusalem? (On a donkey's back, with people placing down palm branches for Him to walk on)

Why were the people so excited to see Jesus come to town? (They believed He was the promised Savior.)

What are some hard situations you or other kids your age have gone through?

What does it feel like when you're facing a tough situation and you can't see or understand what God is doing in it?

When we don't know how a tough situation will turn out, how can we remind ourselves that whatever happens, God is still working? (*Pray, talk with family/friends, read in the Bible about how God is always faithful and good.*)

How can we show that we believe God sees the big picture and is still working out a plan for our lives? (We can trust God.)

Parent: Share about a time when God's plan was better than your plan, even when it didn't feel like it at the time.





Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"God, thank You for the good news that You never stop working. You don't ever pause, break down, or forget about us. When we feel anxious about things that aren't happening right away, please help us remember the hope we have in Jesus. He came to be our Savior, just like You promised long ago! We ask that Your Spirit would interrupt our worries this week and encourage us that whatever happens, You are still working. Amen."