

**FAMILY GROUPS**  
**PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION**  
**CYCLE B**

**Opening Prayer:** Jesus, as we enter Holy Week, we want to be mindful of your great love for us. We thank you for gathering us as a family to read the Bible and discuss how we should live each day. We love you and praise you. Amen.

**Theme:** *God wants us to love all people.*

**Gospel:** Mark 15:1-39 (Short Form) One family member reads the Gospel aloud.

**Making Connections:**

This Sunday is called Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion because in the Gospel we read about how Jesus had to suffer and die before he rose from the dead. The Gospel story tells us that Jesus was arrested, beaten, and whipped. The Roman soldiers and many of the people in the crowd mocked and made fun of Jesus, but he did not fight back. His friends left him, and they even denied knowing him. Jesus remained faithful and stood up for what he believed. Like Jesus, we must not give in to the temptation to strike back when others hurt us through their words and actions.

**FAMILY SHARING TIME**

*Use the questions below to guide your family discussion.*

**Preschool children:** Today's story tells us that some people hurt Jesus. How do you feel when people hurt you? Jesus was kind to everyone. Who is kind to you? Who are you kind to?

**Primary-grade children:** Today's story tells us that Jesus was hurt and made fun of by the Roman soldiers and many of the people in the crowd. Has anyone ever hurt, bullied, or made fun of you? How did that make you feel? What did you do? Have you ever hurt, bullied, or made fun of someone else? Why?

**Preteens:** Jesus was taunted, made fun of, and bullied. Have you ever seen anyone treated in that way? What did you do? What can you learn from the way Jesus responded to those who were hurting him? What is your response when others hurt you?

**ACTIVITY**

Go to <http://www.cpryion.org/prayer/child/stations/index.html> to find a description of the Stations of the Cross. Select one or more stations and discuss Jesus' reactions to those who hurt him and those who helped him.

Option: Check at your diocesan or parish library and see if they have any videos on bullying to view and discuss as a family.

**Suggestion of the Week:** As a family, participate in the Stations of the Cross.

**PRAYING TOGETHER**

*Gather around a prayer table with a Bible, crucifix, and lit candle.*

**All:** Dear Jesus, we want to be like you and treat everyone with respect and kindness. Thank you for giving us your Holy Spirit to help us to live like you. Amen.

**Leader:** *Share a sign of peace with one another.*