

# Short Talk

(SHT090)

## What sort of King is Jesus?

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ALL AGE WORSHIP  
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## SHORT TALK: “What sort of King is Jesus?”

- Aim of Short talk:** To teach that on Palm Sunday Jesus revealed Himself as the Messiah (God’s King) when He entered Jerusalem riding a donkey. He is a humble, courageous and servant King, whose glory was seen when He laid down His life on the cross.
- Use of Short talk:** This is a short All Age talk picking out one issue from the Lectionary Gospel reading of the Sunday main service. The talk stands alone and assumes that the Gospel Bible reading may not yet have been read to the congregation. It could be used for example, for the whole congregation before the children go out to their age specific groups, leaving the adults with a full sermon later.
- Main themes:** Palm Sunday, Jesus, Power, Peace, Service
- Biblical references:** John 12:12-16, Mark 11:1-11
- Lectionary:** Year B – Palm Sunday
- Props:** You will need:
- i) a “throne” for a volunteer to sit on. You could cover a chair with some purple or gold material to create the effect.
  - ii) a “cloak” (which could be a piece of purple or gold material).
  - iii) a “crown” (which could be made from a piece of gold card or a gold glitter foam crown could be bought from Baker Ross)<sup>1</sup>.
  - iv) Table to one side of the throne with a plate of biscuits and a drink.
- Before the Service:** You may wish to find your volunteer (an older child/younger teen works best) before the service begins so that you can brief them on the questions that you will ask them.

.....

I wonder what sort of king or queen you would be if you suddenly found yourself in that position?

- Now I am not talking about being a king or queen with little power, but about being a king or queen with the power to do anything that you want to do,
- because you have the authority to snap your fingers and people will do just what you tell them to do.
- How would you use that power?

Who would like to come and be a king or queen for today? *(Receive volunteer)*

- Let’s put this royal cloak around you, *(Wrap cloak around the volunteer)*
- and put a crown upon your head.....*(Put crown upon the head of you volunteer)*
- Now you look like royalty.
- Please sit down upon your throne. *(Volunteer sits upon the “throne”)*

<sup>1</sup> The Baker Ross website is: [www.bakerross.co.uk](http://www.bakerross.co.uk)  
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So King/Queen *N* (name of volunteer),

- Would you like a drink or a biscuit? (*Volunteer replies*)
- Could someone please come and serve their Highness with a drink and biscuit? (*Another volunteer comes and serves the drink and biscuit to the "King/Queen"*)

Now your Royal Highness you have the power to do anything that you want to do.

- Are there any rules at your school/college that you would do away with? (*Volunteer replies*)
- Is there anything that you would do to make the lives of the children better? (*Volunteer replies*)
- So school would be quite different if you were reigning wouldn't it?

Thinking now about the country that you live in, is there anything that you want to change? (*Volunteer replies*)

- Thank you very much King/Queen *N*
- Would you please sit down?

King/Queen *N* had to choose what sort of king/queen they would be didn't they?

- whether they would be kind and loving to the people in their kingdom,
- or whether they would be selfish and demanding.

If we think back now to a day over 2000 years ago, we remember that Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.

To the Jewish people of the day, this was a sign that Jesus was claiming to be the Messiah;

- God's King,
- but what sort of king would Jesus be?

The people were really hoping that Jesus would be God's king who would come as a war leader and set them free from living under Roman occupation,

- and so they lay down their cloaks on the road in front of Jesus.
- They tore down palm branches and waved them, shouting, "Hosanna" which means "Save us".....
- but was a war leader the sort of king that Jesus was?

No it wasn't was it?

- When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, He was saying in that action that He was coming as the king of peace, not of war.
- If Jesus had come to wage war, He would have ridden a horse.....
- so Jesus is a **humble king**.

Not only that, but Jesus is also a **courageous king**.

- Jesus knew when He chose to ride into Jerusalem so publicly that He was putting his life at risk, because many of the religious authorities hated Jesus and were plotting to kill Him....
- but He did it anyway because He knew that this was His Father's will.

Jesus is also a **servant king**.

- Jesus didn't come to be served by people, but to serve.....
- and the most amazing way that He served us was when He lay down His life upon the cross so that we could be set free from sin and have peace with Father God.

Jesus' glory as King was not seen on earth with Him having a large army, great riches and wearing magnificent robes.

Jesus' glory as King was seen on the cross.

- That's where all people could see the sort of King that Jesus really is....
- a humble, courageous and servant King.
- Let's worship Him.