

Easter Gethsemane – Christ’s Last Week

Use these hands-on sensory experiences to help the children step through the last weeks of Christ’s life. You can use any Easter song, or it works really well tied to Gethsemane.

How to Play:

Sing through Gethsemane (or your choice of Easter song) once before introducing the activity.

Bring out one object at a time. You can hide them and have the children try to guess what the object is by touch. Then reveal the object and make a connection with one of the things the Savior might have felt his final week.

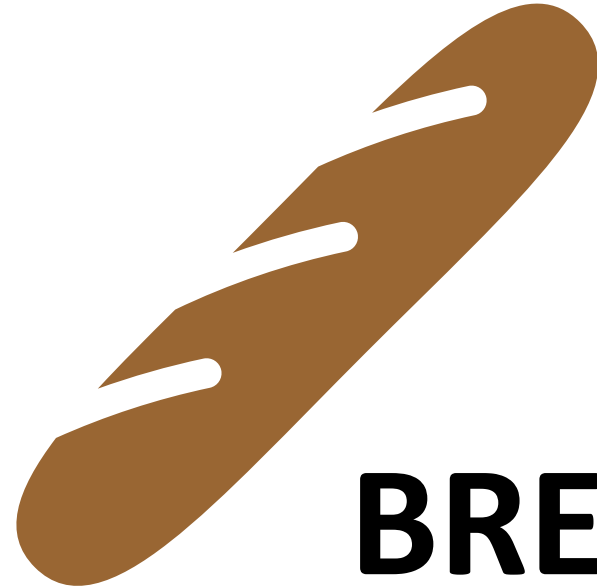
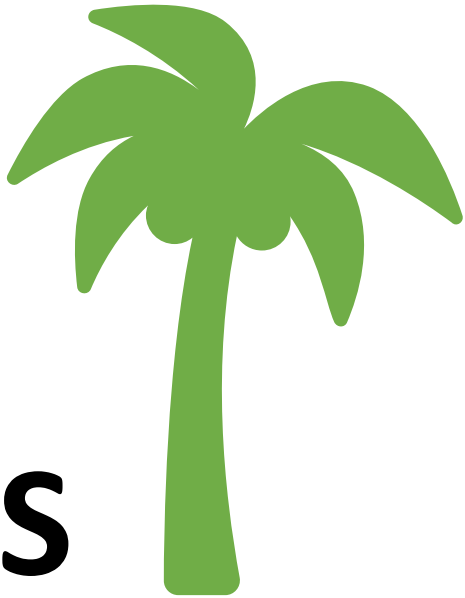
- **Palm Leaf:** The palm leaf is a symbol of Christ’s entry into Jerusalem. It was also symbolic of his royalty and importance.
- **Bread:** You could bring in a warm homemade loaf of bread, or just any slice of bread. It will represent the last supper and sharing a good meal with dear friends. This was one of his last significant teaching moments and instituting the sacrament.
- **Coins:** The coins relate to when Christ went to the temple and threw out the money changers. It reminds us that money isn’t the most important thing.
- **Soil:** Spent time in the garden experiencing all the pain and sickness others would feel.
- **Soft Blanket:** Christ was comforted by His Father and the angels strengthened him during that most difficult experience.
- **Hard Rock:** The rock can represent the trial and judgement plus the abuse Christ suffered with the hard-hearted soldiers.
- **Nails:** The nails represent the sharp pain Christ would have felt with the spear in his side and the nails in his hand and feet.
- **Towel/Cloth:** A white towel or cloth to represent the Savior’s resurrection and his beloved seeing Him again in person.

After each object, sing through your Easter song pick through.

Extension Activities:

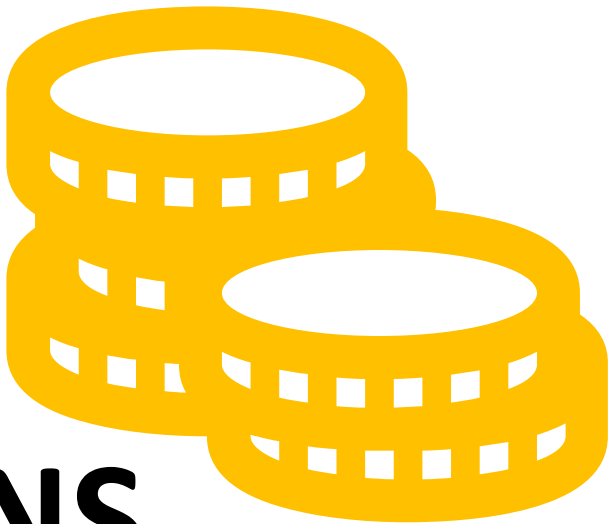
- Place all the objects in separate bowl and blindfold a child. Tell them which object they are feeling for and let them try each bowl by feel until they think they have the correct one.
- Have one child come sit up front and hold the object, until you have all the items in a row. You can tie the object to a keyword and have them hold up the object when their word is sung throughout the song.
- Add an action for each object and repeat the object sequence as you add each new object:
 - Wave / Rolling Pin / Rub fingers (money symbol) / Tuck fingers into hand / Hug self / Pound fist / Touch palm / Point to heaven
- You can use our printable cards below to talk about the objects without the objects. Or use them to label your bowls.
- Put the objects out of order, and have the kids help you put them back in the correct sequence.

**PALM
LEAVES**

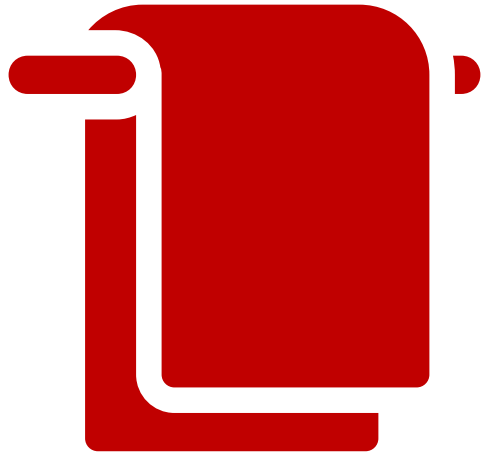


BREAD

COINS



SOIL



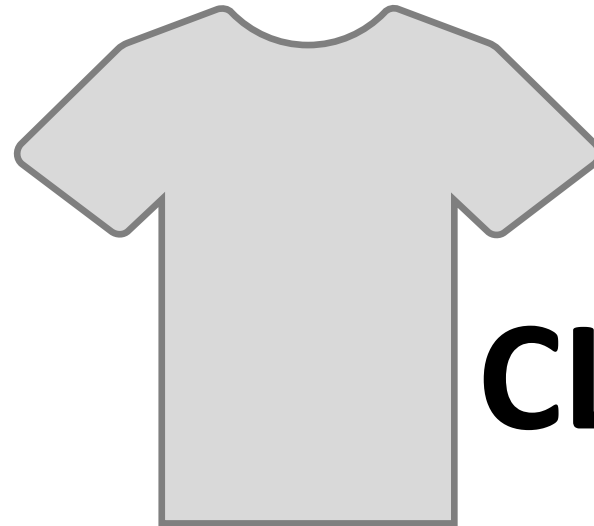
BLANKET



ROCKS



NAILS



CLOTH



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