

# ROOTS YOUNG PEOPLE

Go to [www.rootsontheweb.com](http://www.rootsontheweb.com) for all templates, links and images. Find Bible notes and more prayers on p.26. Use the BIBLE section below first, then choose activities from the other sections. Extra ideas can be found in *Explore & respond* opposite.

## BIBLE Matthew 21.1-11

### Warm up 5 mins E

Split the group into three teams. Each team has one minute to act out as many names of famous people as they can from a list that you give them, e.g. Donald Trump, Beyoncé, Elvis Presley, Lionel Messi, JK Rowling, the Queen. The opposing teams try to guess the names. The winning team is the one who has guessed the most names by the end of their time.

### Immersive Bible 10 mins W E

Take the group outside (if possible) and assign each person a part in the story: Jesus, disciples, Pharisees, Romans, bystanders, donkey. Make the point that not everyone who was there was cheering Jesus on. Use props as coats and palm branches, and ask the young people to act out the story as you read it.

### Questions to discuss

- How might the bystanders have felt when they watched what was happening?
- What might you have thought if you were one of Jesus' disciples?
- What may the crowds have anticipated happening straight after this incident?

## CONNECT

### Pilgrimage and anticipation 10 mins W E

Explain that every year millions of people go on a pilgrimage to a place of religious or moral significance for them, e.g. Mecca, Jerusalem. When a group embarks on a pilgrimage together, there is a sense of anticipation. Give each young person a pilgrimage worksheet [WEB](#). Ask them to fill in the questions and gather to discuss in small groups, then discuss the final question as a whole group.

### Anticipation timeline 15 mins W E

Give everyone a piece of A3 paper, on which to draw a line across the middle and make a timeline of the last year. They can add key events in one colour, while in another, write what their expectations were at the start of the year, e.g. what might happen and when. Discuss anticipation and how that can turn into excitement or be a let-down. They can add to the end of the timeline anything they are anticipating God doing in this next year.

[WEB](#) PostScript: Linking this week's reading to the news [Globe](#).

## Listen

[WEB](#) See *Young People* page or *Hymns, songs & music* for links to these tracks. Make a move, Royal tailor on *Black & white*  
Breaking free, Skillet feat. Lacey Sturm on *Unleashed beyond*  
Still rolling stones, Lauren Daigle on *Look up child*

## EXPLORE

### Is this the time? 10 mins W E

Hang up a piñata. Talk about how, when you hit it, there is a sense of anticipation: will this be the time it splits open and reveals the sweets? Let the young people take turns to hit it and reflect on this sense of anticipation. Each time, ask them a question, e.g. 'Will this be the time?' or 'How do you feel?'.

### Where's Jesus? 10 mins E

Show the group a 'Where's Jesus?' picture (see printable version on [WEB](#)), and ask them to find Jesus in the turmoil. Ask what else they notice in the picture. Jesus was on a journey into Jerusalem through the turmoil of a city during festival season. How do we walk together through busy lives and times of turmoil?



### Picture pointers [WEB](#)

Questions for reflection [Globe](#)

- ▶ When have you been in a large crowd at something special?
- ▶ What evidence is there that your church community is 'on the move'?

## PRAY

### Mind-map prayers 5 mins W S

Place a large sheet of paper in the middle of the room. Create a mind-map as a group, using the following questions. What do we want God to change in the next year? What turning points would I like to see in my life? Pray together silently, asking God to be present in change and turning points, as each element of the mind-map is written down.

### Newspaper prayers 5 mins S A

Display a selection of images on the floor showing current news stories where people are in turmoil. Gather the group around them in a circle and invite the young people to pray aloud for those situations, specifically that God will be with the people and situations in their turmoil.

## Live your faith [Globe](#)

Join in with a walk of witness this week to experience being a community on the move. **E S**