

Play a round of aiming for target. Then try hitting small target with blindfold on.

Was it easier to hit the larger or smaller target? Was it easier or harder to aim for the small target with the blindfold on?

hitting these outside rings is easier. But hitting the smaller tougher areas is worth more points. If you get the **“bullseye” in the center, which is challenging, it’s the most valuable.** Well, why are we talking about targets anyway? What does it have to do with our Bible story? It’s quite simple: **Jesus had a different goal in mind than what others thought He should be aiming for. He wasn’t just taking things the easy way. He knew that His job would be the hardest thing possible, but that it would be worth more than anything else.**

Let’s watch a little video about Jesus entering Jerusalem on what we now call Palm Sunday. Pay attention so you can answer the question...

#TargetPractice: Why did Jesus weep when He entered Jerusalem?

[\(9\) Jesus and Palm Sunday | God's Story - YouTube](#)

The people were cheering “Hosanna” which means “save us” because they thought the Messiah would be a warrior coming to rescue them from the Romans. They waved palm branches, which was sort of like waving flags in a parade. These people wanted Jesus to have an end goal that included rescuing them from other people and taking over the government. But that was not the kind of salvation Jesus planned to bring. He knew what was coming. He knew that He had a tougher target to hit. He would have to suffer, experience immense pain, and be killed. His end goal was the cross.

Jesus wept because it hurt His heart to know these people weren’t understanding why He came. They wanted to be saved from their current physical troubles but not looking for being saved from spiritual trouble. These same people would soon be the ones to sentence Him to a painful death.

Jesus recognized that this was God’s plan and purpose for Him, and that He was going to rescue not just the people of Jerusalem, but all people, saving them not from Romans, but from sin, death, and the devil. And what wonderful news this is for us! We should rejoice that Jesus did not aim for an easy task but was willing to suffer and die. He had a painful and difficult goal to reach, and He did it. With His blood, He freed us from sin and death forever. We can give thanks to God every day for saving us.

Dear God,

Thank you for your marvelous plans.

Thank you for sending Jesus and giving Him an important purpose.

Help us to trust you and remind us you are near.

Thank you for forgiveness.

Thank you for your love
We love you, God!
In Jesus's name, Amen!

Lesson modified from [Childrens-message-Mark-11-Palm-Sunday.pdf](#)