

# Palm-Branch Pass

Matthew 21:1-17; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-40; John 12:12-14

## Materials

A chair for each student, small branch from a tree or bush for every six to eight students, garden clippers.

## Prepare the Game

Set the chairs in lines of four to eight, creating at least two lines of chairs as shown in the sketch. Trim off any sharp twigs from branches.

## Lead the Game

1. Group students into teams of four to eight. Assign each team a line of chairs. Students sit on chairs.
2. Give a branch to the student sitting in the first chair on each team. At your signal, the student passes the branch down the row. When the branch reaches the last student in the row, he or she carries the branch and runs to the first chair in the row. While student is running, all the other team members move down one chair, leaving the first chair empty for the running student to sit on. After he or she is seated, student passes branch to the next student and branch is passed down the row again. Process is continued until all students have returned to their original chairs.
3. A volunteer from the first team to finish the relay answers one of the questions below. Mix up teams and play game again if time allows.

## Options

1. If possible, use palm branches (available at flower shops).
2. If you cannot get a branch from a tree or bush, cut a palm branch out of green paper.
3. If there are not an even number of players, play the relay along with the students.

## Discussion Questions

1. **What are some of the reasons we want to praise Jesus?** (He is God's Son. He was willing to die on the cross to pay the punishment for all people's sins. He rose from the dead. He loves us all. He taught us the best way to live.)
2. **What are some ways we can praise Jesus?** (Sing songs to Him. When we pray, tell Him why we love Him or what we are thankful for. Tell others how wonderful He is.)
3. **What is your favorite way to praise Jesus?** Volunteers respond.

