

The Proud Tree

User's Guide

Preparation

Tell children the story of Christ's last days on earth. Begin with the entry into Jerusalem and tell about the Last Supper and the arrest, trial, and sentencing of Jesus.

Points to emphasize:

- Jesus thanked God for his friends on earth.
- Jesus washed the feet of the apostles at the Last Supper and told them they must serve others.
- Pilate asked Jesus, "Are you the king of the Jews?"



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The Proud Tree

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Discussion Starters

1. Rex was a great and beautiful tree. He had been created that way by God. But when Rex bragged about how wonderful he was, he forgot to thank God for making him the way he was. Let us thank God for all his wonderful gifts to us.
2. Rex thought all the other trees should bow down and honor him because he was the greatest. At the Last Supper, Jesus washed the feet of his apostles and said *they* must serve *others* to be great. Let's talk about some of the ways we can serve others.
3. The men came to the forest looking for a tree suitable for "the King." Who was the king they were talking about, and how was Rex to serve him? What are some ways we can serve Jesus, *our* King?
4. To prepare Rex to meet the King, the men stripped him of his spreading branches and beautiful leaves and, in so doing, his pride. As we prepare ourselves to meet Jesus, what are some things we can give up to make us more like Jesus?
5. In the end, Rex came to believe Jesus was truly God's Son. He was sorry for his sins and asked God to forgive him. God rewarded Rex for his faith by giving him new life. Talk about how God rewards us for our faith in him and for our sorrow for our sins.



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