

middle school



Triumphal Entry/ April 2, 2023

# On Our Behalf

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as  
**STEP 1** 

**Triumphal Entry  
Focus:**

Jesus took what we  
deserved.

**Triumphal Entry  
Bible Basis:**

Mark 15:16-37;  
Hebrews 10:19-22

**Triumphal Entry  
Memory Verse:**

God was reconciling the world to  
himself in Christ, not counting people's  
sins against them.  
—2 Corinthians 5:19a

**Students will consider the cost of acting on behalf of others as they watch a video about a hero who put his life on the line to save children from a burning building.**

**Materials:**

- Internet access

➤ **Who are some people who sometimes risk their lives to save others?** (Students may mention law enforcement officers, military, firefighters, parents for their children.)

➤ **What are some reasons someone might die for someone else?** (Students may answer that a person might do this out of duty, because it is their job, because they love or care for the person [parent].)

**Some jobs are dangerous. Those who serve in the military or as police officers or as firefighters put themselves in harm's way to protect and save others. Every day these people go into dangerous situations to help and rescue people. Let's watch an amazing video about a crisis and rescue.**

Share the following video [2:13]:

'Please tell me that baby's ok' | Man rescues 5 children from burning home

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hCuu5fh8wnY>

➤ **How do you think the kids and their parents felt about the firefighter who saved them?** (Students may share that they were thankful, relieved, felt they owed him something, etc.)

➤ **The news reporters said Nicholas was the hero in this story. What about this firefighter's behavior made him a hero?** (Answers will vary but might include entering a dangerous situation and being willing to do whatever it took to save the victims.)

➤ **Can you tell about a time when you needed to be rescued?** (Remind your students that there are many more things we need to be rescued from than burning buildings. If your students have a hard time thinking of things, remind them of some time when they were scared, hurt, or lost and someone came to rescue them. Be prepared to share your own experience.)

**There are many heroes in the world, some who give of their own time and talents, even those who risk their own health and safety, for the sake of others. But the greatest all-time example of this is Jesus—who gave His very body and blood to give us life and wholeness. Let's find out more.**

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

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# On Our Behalf

for use as  
**STEP 4** 

**Triumphal Entry  
Focus:**

Jesus took what we  
deserved.

**Triumphal Entry  
Bible Basis:**

Mark 15:16-37;  
Hebrews 10:19-22

**Triumphal Entry  
Memory Verse:**

God was reconciling the world to  
himself in Christ, not counting people's  
sins against them.  
—2 Corinthians 5:19a

**Materials:**

- None

**Out of His great love for us, Jesus stood in our place when He hung on the cross. We can't repay Him or what He has done, but out of our gratitude and because of His examples, we can pay it forward a little when we have the chance. By standing in someone else's place when they can't or shouldn't have to go it alone—being for them a friend, an advocate, or supplying a resource—we point to Jesus who stood in our place so we would never be alone, but could be with Him always.**

- **How does it feel to be in need or alone?** (Accept all reasonable answers. One might feel overlooked, forgotten, misunderstood, unloved, etc. Students may share examples of times they have experienced this.)
- **How does it feel to be treated kindly or receive support when you are in need or feeling alone?** (Accept all reasonable answers. One might feel relief, surprise, joy, gratitude, etc. Students may share examples of times they have experienced this.)

Talk to your students about which of the following examples they would be willing to stand in someone's place or act on behalf of others. Encourage conversation about what causes us to lean into our comfort zones and what might inspire us to act.

- Stand up for a friend being bullied or teased online.
- Speak up for someone with a disability to ensure they get the access and opportunities they need.
- Give food to a hungry stranger.
- Help a competitor who is injured.
- Bring groceries to a homebound neighbor.
- Raise money for a family in need.
- Volunteer to walk a dog for someone who is sick (with your parents' permission.)
- Send thank you notes to first responders.

➤ **How can you stand in someone's place this week?** (Accept all reasonable answers. Previous conversation may have prompted ideas. The key is to identify a need around you or a personal blind spot or comfort zone to break out of.)

Challenge them to look for opportunities to follow through. Urge them to send you a selfie as they engage in this challenge along with info on the way(s) they are following through.

Close in prayer with gratitude for what Jesus has done for us and asking for boldness to act on behalf of others to demonstrate the love of Christ.

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