

SEDER MEAL FAMILY GUIDE

1. Watch the below Video about Passover as a family.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1lwMt-KLkSE>

2. Prepare your table

- Candles lit on the table: Representing Jesus, who is the light of the World
- Food on table: Unleavened bread, boiled egg, bitter herbs (horseradish), Charoseth (a sweet mixture of apples, cinnamon, grape-juice, and walnuts), salt water, parsley, and grape juice.

3. Explain the Feast

- **Read Exodus 12:14** - explain that this is a very special time for you and your family to remember Jesus
 - "We celebrate this feast to help us remember that God rescued the Israelites from bondage in Egypt. On the night before He delivered them, God told them to kill a lamb and to cover the top of their doorway with its blood. Every Israelite family who did what God said was protected from the plague of death in their home.
 - Many years later, Jesus (God's son) came to earth in human form and died on the cross- as a fulfillment of the Old Testament sacrifice. He became the ultimate sacrificial lamb. We no longer have to kill a lamb like they did under the Old Covenant for forgiveness of sin. Jesus' blood was shed so that all who receive Him as their savior are saved from sin and eternal death. This sacrifice was all-sufficient, once for all.
- **Read Isaiah 53: 3-12...**
 - In short, it says that Jesus was the lamb who was slain for all of our sins and by His stripes we are healed! Jesus lived the perfect life we couldn't live and died the death that we deserved. His payment of death allows us to have the opportunity to have a relationship with God. To do this we must believe that Jesus is who He said He is and did what He said He would do. Jesus offers us forgiveness from our sins so that we can be with God, but we must accept this gift. To do this we must have a talk with Him about our sin, asking Him for forgiveness, and we must ask Him to be in charge of our lives. We must commit to Jesus we want to follow His way instead of our own way.

(Explain the Feast Continued)

- The night before Christ died, He celebrated the Passover dinner with His disciples but during the meal Jesus made clear that He was the Lamb to be slain for the salvation of the world.
- **Read John 3:16.**

4. Lead the Meal

a. Leader Passes Out Elements of the Meal

- At this time, the head of table passes each food item (one by one) and explains what they represent.... (Eat as you go, or after everything is explained.)
- **Unleavened bread** (I made Gluten Free Matzo): Store bought Matzo can be used. We eat this to remind us that the Israelites didn't have time to wait for yeast bread to rise- rather they had to be ready to go when God said "GO." At the Last Supper Jesus told us that the bread would represent His body that was broken for us. We eat it in remembrance of His body that was slain for us.
- **The Missing Lamb:** When the Jews ate this meal they ate lamb to remember the lamb's blood that protected them during the passover. Jesus came as the lamb to be slain for our sins. The Lamb is missing from our plate because not only did Jesus die, but he raised from the dead and is alive.
- **Boiled Egg-** (In Jewish tradition it is a roasted egg) the egg stands for renewal. The Israelites were going to start a new life and we have new life in Christ because of what He did on the cross for us.
- **Bitter herbs-**We serve horseradish as a reminder of the bitterness of the slavery in Egypt. Jesus suffered greatly for us that we may be saved. Remind them that on the cross He was given the bitter vinegar on the sponge to drink.
- **Charoseth-** This is a mixture of chopped apples, walnuts, grape-juice (or wine), cinnamon, and brown sugar. Symbolizes the mortar and bricks the Israelites used in making the bricks for the king of Egypt.
- **Karpas-** We use parsley for this. These plants stay green all year and represent everlasting life because of Christ's resurrection.
- **Small bowl of salt water-** Tears of the Israelites in bondage. Today can represent our tears for those who haven't accepted Christ as their personal savior. Dip the parsley into the salt water bowl and eat it. Grape juice or wine poured in glasses.
- **Grape juice** – At the passover meal there were four cups. The cups were used to remember God's promises to bring the Israelites out of Egypt, to free them from slavery, to make them a new kingdom, and to accept them as His people. Jesus came to fulfill all of these promises all of these promises.

At the Last Supper Jesus showed us that the passover was a picture of what He came to do for the world. When we eat a passover meal or take the Lord's Supper we should remember who He is, what He has done for us, and remember that He is coming back. Point to the empty chair at your table. This chair helps us to remember that Jesus is coming back and that we should be ready to welcome Him when the time comes.