

Unit 26 • Session 3

The Last Supper

Bible Passage:

Matthew 26; Mark 14;
Luke 22; John 13

STORY POINT:

Jesus commanded His disciples to remember His sacrifice.

Key Passage:

Philippians 2:8

Big Picture Question:

What did Jesus do to save us? Jesus lived a sinless life, died on the cross, and rose from the dead.

Review Questions

Whom did Jesus send to prepare the Passover? (*Peter and John, Luke 22:8*)

What two items did Jesus share with His disciples as a way to remember His sacrifice? (*the bread and the cup, Luke 22:19-20*)

What did Jesus say Peter would do three times before the morning came? (*deny that he knew Jesus, Luke 22:34*)

Why is the Lord's Supper so important? *Guide kids to think less about the specific foods used and more about the symbolism of the meal. Remind them that Jesus' sacrifice was a choice. He did not have to allow His enemies to hurt and kill Him. The Lord's Supper is a meaningful way for us to honor Jesus by obeying Him. The Lord's Supper is a beautiful picture of what Jesus did for us in dying on the cross.*

Who can participate in taking the Lord's Supper? *Guide kids to think about the importance of the bread and the cup. Remind*

them that only those who have faith in Jesus' death and resurrection have salvation from sin. Those who reject Jesus or who have not yet come to faith do not participate in the Lord's Supper.

What other ways do we remember and celebrate Jesus' sacrifice for us? *Direct kids to think about when most churches gather. Discuss the hymns and songs we sing. Remind the kids that we celebrate Easter in the springtime. Talk about the burial and resurrection symbolism of baptism.*

Activities

Setting up a Passover meal

Direct the kids to sit in a circle. Think of a theme such as fruits, vegetables, or foods that start with the same first letter as the speaker's name. Start the game by saying "I'm setting up a Passover; I plan to bring _____" filling in the blank with a food that fits the theme.

Allow each kid to add a dish to the meal. For an added challenge, you can keep the theme secret, and see if kids can figure it out using trial and error.

SAY • If we were really planning a Passover meal, we wouldn't get to choose what foods to make. God gave His people very specific instructions about what to eat at Passover. In our story today, we will learn about very specific instructions Jesus gave to His disciples. Jesus' instructions gave the meal a whole new level of meaning and importance.

Pass the plate

Instruct the kids to stand in a circle. Give one kid a paper plate, and place 5–10 table tennis balls on the plate. Challenge the group to pass the plate around the circle without spilling any of the table tennis balls. For an added challenge, consider using a stopwatch to see how quickly the kids can pass the plate around the whole circle without spilling any of the table tennis balls.

Say • It was tricky to pass that plate without spilling. Today we will learn about a time Jesus passed bread and drink around to all His disciples. Do you know what Jesus said those foods represented? We'll soon learn!

Give it up

Bring in four objects: a play money coin, a pillow, a piece of sports equipment, and a clock. Set up four stations around the room. Place one of the objects at each station. Guide the kids around the room to visit each station and think through how obeying God might require us to change our thoughts about:

our treasures or money (giving to missions)

our comfort (going somewhere difficult)

our hobbies (learning new hobbies or sharing hobbies with new people)

our time (volunteering to serve others)

Say • Obeying God often requires us to sacrifice things that we enjoy. Missionary Eric Liddell sacrificed everything, even his life, to be obedient to God in China. God may not call us to give up everything we enjoy, but He does want us to be willing to sacrifice for His sake. **Jesus commanded His disciples to remember His sacrifice.**

Pray, thanking God for Jesus' sacrifice. Ask Him to help us sacrifice for the Kingdom, like Eric Liddell did and like missionaries your church supports do.

The Lord's Supper

Set up a display that shows the elements of the Lord's Supper as your church observes it. Walk the kids through the process and explain why your church observes the Lord's Supper in this way. Ensure kids understand who may participate (*believers*) and why (*to obey Jesus and remember His sacrifice*). To avoid hurt feelings and inappropriate participation, do not allow kids to take communion at this time. Any kids who wish to take communion should be directed to

their parents, a pastor, or an elder at your church to discuss their salvation.

Say • **Jesus commanded His disciples to remember His sacrifice.** One of the biggest ways we do that is by taking communion, also known as the Lord's Supper. Different churches practice this act in different ways, but the meaning is the same for all believers. The bread we eat represents Jesus' body, which was broken for us. The drink we use represents Jesus' blood, which was spilled for us. When we have faith in Jesus' perfect life, death, and resurrection, God forgives our sin and gives us eternal life. We then obey God out of love for Him, which also means remembering Jesus' sacrifice in the way He said to.