

**Story Time: Read the story to the children:**  
**Lesson 38: THE FIRST PASSOVER**  
**Exodus 12:1-28**

Later the LORD told Moses and Aaron: This month is going to be the first month of the year for you. Tell all the people of Israel that on the tenth day of this month the leader of each family must choose a lamb or a young goat for his family to eat. If any family is too small to eat the whole animal, they must share it with their next-door neighbors. Choose either a sheep or a goat, but it must be a one-year-old male that has nothing wrong with it. And it must be big enough for everyone to have some of the meat. Each family must take care of its animal until the fourteenth day of the month in the evening. This is when the animals should be killed. Some of the blood must be put on the two doorposts and above the door of each house where the animals are being eaten. That night you should roast the animals and eat them, together with bitter herbs and thin bread made without yeast. Don't eat the meat raw or boil it, it has to be roasted whole. Eat what you want that night, and the next morning burn whatever is left over. When you eat your meal, be dressed and ready to travel. Have your sandals on, and carry your walking stick in your hand, and eat quickly. This is the Passover Festival in honor of me, your Lord. That same night I will pass through Egypt and kill the first-born son in every family and the first-born male of all animals. I am the Lord, and I will punish the false gods of Egypt. The blood on the houses will show me where you live, and when I see the blood there on the doorposts and above the door, I will pass over you. Then you won't be bothered by the terrible disasters I am going to bring on Egypt. I want you to remember this day and celebrate it each year as a festival in my honor. For seven days you must eat bread made without any yeast. And at the beginning of the seven days, you must remove all yeast from your homes. If you eat anything made with yeast during this festival, you will no longer be part of Israel. You should meet together for worship on the first day and the seventh day of the festival. The only work you are allowed to do on either of these two days is the work of making the bread. Celebrate this Festival of Thin Bread as a way of remembering the day that I brought your families out of Egypt. You should do this every year, starting on the evening of the fourteenth day of the first month. Moses called the leaders of

Israel together and said: Each family is supposed to pick out a sheep and kill it for Passover. Make a brush from a few small branches of a hyssop plant and dip the brush in the bowl that has the blood of the animal in it. Then brush some of the blood above the door and on the posts on each side of the door of your house. After this, everyone needs to stay inside. During that night the Lord will go through the country of Egypt and kill the first-born son in every Egyptian family. He will see where you have put the blood, and he will not come into your house. His angel that brings death will pass over and not kill your first-born sons. After you leave Egypt and you have entered the country promised to you by the Lord, you and your children must celebrate Passover every year. Your children will ask you, "What are we celebrating?" And you will answer, "The Passover animal is killed to honor the Lord. We are doing these things because on that night a long time ago the Lord passed over the homes of our people in Egypt. He killed the first-born sons of the Egyptians, but he saved our children from death." After Moses finished speaking, the people of Israel knelt down and worshiped the Lord. Then they left and did what Moses and Aaron had told them to do.

## **38. THE FIRST PASSOVER**

### **(EXODUS 12:1-28)**

#### **MEMORY VERSE:**

“But now in Christ Jesus you who were once far off have been made near by the blood of Christ” EPHESIANS 2:13

#### **TRUE OR FALSE**

1. The Lord told Moses and Aaron to tell the people to choose some bread to eat for Passover. TRUE or FALSE
2. The people were supposed to kill the animal right away. TRUE or FALSE
3. The Israelites were supposed to put some blood from the animal on the sides and at the top of their door. TRUE or FALSE
4. The Lord was going to bless every first-born son of Egypt. TRUE or FALSE

#### **ANSWER THE QUESTIONS**

1. What was the Lord going to do to the Egyptian first-born sons?
2. Was everybody supposed to eat some of the Passover meat?
3. Were the Israelites going to be safe when the Lord passed through Egypt?
4. How would the Lord know which houses belonged to the Israelites?
5. Were the Israelites supposed to have Passover dinner every year? Why? Was it to remember how God protected them and brought them out of Egypt?
6. Did the people obey what the Lord told them to do?

# LESSON 38 CRAFT/ACTIVITY

## Observe Yeast

Tell your students about yeast, “yeast is leaven”; and in the Bible, it represents sin in our lives. Mix a teaspoon of yeast with two tablespoons of flour, one teaspoon of sugar, and four tablespoons of lukewarm water. Also mix the same ingredients without yeast. Allow your class to observe the leavening process and see what happens over time when dough is leavened. You can refer to the bowls a couple of times through the class time to see their progress (the bowl with no yeast will not really have any “progress”). Explain to your class the concept of “leaven” and how a little sin can lead to a lot of sin.

## PAINT YOUR DOOR FOR THE PASSOVER

Color the door red on the sides and on the top like the Israelites did during the first Passover

## OPTIONAL: Paper Passover

Cut out shapes from colored construction paper representing the foods from the Passover. Use green construction paper to cut out bitter herbs, tan to cut out unleavened bread, and brown to cut out the lamb. Glue all the colors on a paper plate so each student can have a Passover meal.

**PRAYER** Lead the children in a prayer of thanksgiving for God's provision. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them opportunity.

