Story Time - Read the story to the children Lesson 229: THE LAST SUPPER LUKE 22:7-20

The Day of Unleavened Bread came. This was the day when the Jews always killed the lambs for the Passover. Jesus said to Peter and John, "Go and prepare the Passover meal for us to eat." They said to him, "Where do you want us to prepare the meal?" He said to them, "When you go into the city, you will see a man carrying a jar of water. Follow him. He will go into a house. Tell the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks that you please show us the room where he and his followers can eat the Passover meal.' Then the owner will show you a large room upstairs that is ready for us. Prepare the meal there." So Peter and John left. Everything happened the way Jesus said. So they prepared the Passover meal. The time came for them to eat the Passover meal. Jesus and the apostles were together at the table. Jesus said to them, "I wanted very much to eat this Passover meal with you before I suffer. I will never eat another Passover meal until it has all come to pass in God's kingdom." Then Jesus took a cup of wine. He gave thanks to God for it and said, "Take this cup and give it to everyone here. I will never drink wine again until God's kingdom comes." Then he took some bread and thanked God for it. He broke off some pieces, gave them to the apostles and said, "This bread is my body that I am giving for you. Eat this to remember me." In the same way, after supper, Jesus took the cup of wine and said, "This wine represents the new agreement from God to his people. It will begin when my blood is poured out for you."

229. THE LAST SUPPER LUKE 22:7-20



"Jesus presents the new covenant to His disciples at the last supper." $Luke\ 22:7-20$

229. THE LAST SUPPER LUKE 22:7-20

MEMORY VERSE:

"For I say to you, I will no longer eat of it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." LUKE 22:16

Review Questions True or False

- 1. Jesus sent Peter and John saying, "Go and prepare breakfast for us."
- 2. Jesus told them, "When you go into the city, a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water."
- 3. He told them, "Tell the owner of the house, 'The Teacher ask you please show us the room where we all can sleep.' "
- 4. Then he will show you a large room upstairs that is ready for us.
- 5. Everything happened the way Jesus told them it would.

Questions

- What did Jesus tell John and Peter to do?
 (a. Go into the city b. Follow the man carrying the pitcher of water c. Ask the owner of the house to show them where they could eat the Passover meal)
- 2. Did the owner of the house show Peter and John an upstairs room? Was it all ready for them?
- 3. Did Jesus want to eat the Passover meal with His disciples?
- 4. What did Jesus tell the disciples about the wine?
- 5. After they drank the wine, what did Jesus do next?
- 6. What did Jesus tell the disciples about the bread?

Lesson 229 Passover Explained / Take Communion

(Explain the Passover by reading to the children, then take communion with them – have enough grape juice and broken crackers for each child)

Today We are going to talk about two dinners!

Dinner #1: The Lord's Passover

Our first dinner takes us way back in time to Moses and the children of Israel. They were all under slavery and being treated badly by the king of Egypt called the Pharaoh. God was going to deliver them out of Egypt and away from the Pharaoh.

God put into place a feast so that His people would forever remember that He brought them out of the land of Egypt. This feast is called the Passover. In this passage God was starting His own holiday. He was also giving the children of Israel a new calendar. From then on the month they were in would be the first month on the calendar. This month happened to be April, so April was the first month of the Jewish calendar. Does anyone know what the first month of the American calendar is?

So we see that God wants His people to always remember what He has done for them. He sets up "memorials" to help them to remember. We also have some things that remind us of God's faithfulness as Christians. We will be looking more closely at one later (which is called communion).

So the Passover meal was prepared like this:

First they were to take the blood of the lamb and paint it on the front door of their house. They put the blood on the sides and top of the doorframe only. They were not to put the blood on the floor (threshold) of the doorframe because this blood was special and you should not walk on it and put it under your feet. The meat was to be cooked over a fire. This meat could not be boiled or eaten raw. It had to be barbecued. Also with the meat, there was bread and bitter herbs or vegetables. This sounds like it's going to be good. The last preparation was their clothes. God told them to get dressed for a trip. They were to put all the clothes on they needed for a special trip that God was going to take them on. God called this dinner "The Lord's Passover." God knew that the memory of His faithfulness in our lives would be more easily remembered if it was associated with what we do every day, what we must do to survive...eat! We have an opportunity to thank God for His faithfulness every time we sit down to a meal.

It is very important that we understand what this dinner was for. Why did God have them do this? Let's find out. On this same night in April God was going to go from house to house looking for all those who obeyed His command to put the blood of the lamb on the front door. If they did not have the blood on the door, the people in the house did not obey God. Because they did not obey God and put the blood of the lamb on their door, the punishment was that the first-born male in their family would die that night. Also, the first-born male from all their flocks would die. This was the Judgment of God. All they had to do was obey God. God would pass over any house that applied the blood to the door of their house.

God delivered the people of Israel from the slavery of Egypt the next day after their dinner. God wanted them to always remember this dinner. It was a symbol of God's deliverance of His people out of bondage, an ordinance for them to obey.

It was also a picture of Jesus and how that when we ask Jesus to forgive us of our sins and come into our hearts; He will cleanse us by His blood that was shed for us on Calvary. It is the blood of Jesus that will cleanse us from all unrighteousness and will save us from eternal separation from God.

Dinner #2: The Last Supper

Our second dinner takes place in the time of Jesus' life on earth. This dinner took place with Jesus and His disciples. Who was the first dinner with? (Moses and the people of Israel). This was the day of unleavened bread. This day came four days after Jesus entered into Jerusalem for the Passover week. Do you remember how many days the lamb had to be watched by the people of Israel in the story of our first dinner (four)? Jesus was going to play a special part in our second dinner. Since this was "The Lord's Passover," what month was it (April)?

Jesus told his disciples, Peter and John, to go make preparation for the dinner. They were to go into Jerusalem and find a man with a jar of water. What was special about a man with a jar of water? In those days usually only women carried the water.

It would be rare to see a man carrying a jar of water. This man would lead them to the house that they would have dinner in. This house would be all set up for dinner. The only things they would need were the groceries.

Let's go shopping with Peter and John. They would purchase the lamb at the Temple and take the lamb to the priest. He would kill the lamb and apply the blood for the sins of the disciples. They would then bring the meat back for the dinner.

Next, they would go get the bitter vegetables. They were supposed to be bitter so they would remind the people of how awful it was for their families to be in slavery. Then they would get the bread.

It was supposed to be unleavened. Unleavened meant that it didn't have any yeast in the bread. Yeast is what makes bread and cakes rise and get fluffy. This yeast represented sin against God. There was one other item they would get and that was wine (which is just grape juice that has sat for a while and fermented). It would represent the blood of the Passover lamb that had to die for the families of deliverance. Now that the shopping is done, let's go to the dinner.

When the time came for the Passover dinner the apostles were at the table with Jesus ready to eat. Jesus said to them that He wanted to eat this meal with them before He suffered. Suffered? How was Jesus going to suffer? He was about to die on the cross. We know the story, but the disciples did not know Jesus was going to die as the Passover lamb. Jesus told them that the next time they shared this dinner together it would be in Heaven. Jesus is the Passover Lamb!

Our third dinner takes place today. We are going to take communion together. Communion is a celebration we do together like the Jewish people did at Passover. We remember what Jesus has done for us on the cross; the Jewish people remember what God did for them in Egypt. Each part of the Passover dinner reminds us of God's salvation for our lives.

These are the things that the Passover elements represent:

- 1. Egypt represents slavery to sin.
- 2. The Passover lamb represents Jesus.
- 3. The blood on the doorpost represents Jesus' blood applied to our sin for salvation.
- 4. The bitter vegetables represent how life is bitter and keeps us in bondage without Jesus.
- 5. The unleavened bread represents Jesus' sinless, spotless life.
- 6. The Passover represents God's passing over our lives and saving us from judgment.
- 7. The traveling clothes represent our lives, pilgrims in this land waiting for God's promises to be fulfilled; delivered from slavery and given a life of freedom to live for Him.

In communion we use two symbols (elements), the bread and the wine (or grape juice). The bread we take to remember that Jesus was perfect and sinless. He gave Himself for us who had sin. The bread also reminds us that Jesus gave His body to be beaten and put on a cross, so that we could be made whole. The juice we take to remember that Jesus spilled His blood for us. It's because of His blood that we will be forgiven of our sins if we accept it and apply it to the doorpost of our lives. His blood is like the lamb's blood. The innocent sinless lamb, died for the guilty family. Jesus, the innocent sinless man, died for us sinful people. Jesus is the Passover Lamb. We remember this in communion.

Have you accepted Jesus as the Passover Lamb of God? Have you applied the blood of Jesus to your heart's door? If not, we can explain to you how you can do this today! All you have to do is admit you are born a sinner, and that you need Jesus as your sacrifice for your sins, then you just ask Jesus to come live inside your heart, and accept His sacrifice for your sins!

(Pass out the grape juice and cracker pieces to each child – have them wait until you say that it is time to drink the grape juice as we remember Jesus' blood that was shed for us, then the cracker piece and say that with this 'bread' we remember Jesus' body that was beaten and broken for us) – Join with the children in a prayer of thanksgiving to God that Jesus is our Passover Lamb!

PRAYER Lead the children in a prayer of thanksgiving for the sacrifice made for our sins. Thank the Lord for the promise of the marriage supper of the Lamb in heaven.