



UNIT 26 | SESSION 2

JESUS SHARED A LAST MEAL

MATTHEW 26; MARK 14; LUKE 22

CHRIST CONNECTION

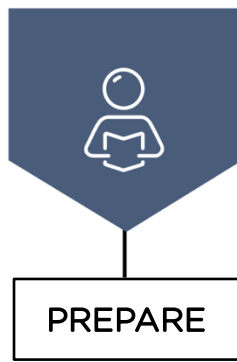
God sent Jesus to make a new, even better promise.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

How is Jesus the perfect Priest? Jesus was the perfect sacrifice for sin, and He speaks to God the Father for us today.

MEMORY VERSE

Hebrews 4:15



LEADER BIBLE STUDY

The time came nearer for Jesus and His disciples to celebrate Passover together. Christ knew the betrayal would take place soon, yet He earnestly desired to break bread and recline at the table with His closest friends. He was aware of the suffering that was soon to come, too, yet He still took to the cross for our salvation; He endured it all for the joy set before Him.

The Passover celebrated the works of God on His people's behalf, as He freed them from Egyptian bondage. Each year, they gathered so as not to forget their miraculous deliverance from slavery. Out of these age-old traditions came the Lord's Supper—a celebration of His new covenant.

What was the significance of the last meal taking place on the first day of Unleavened Bread? How did this tie into the promises of God's new covenant in Jesus?

The first day of Unleavened Bread was a time when the Israelites would sacrifice their Passover lambs. They observed this tradition in remembrance of the blood of the lamb, which signified that God should pass over their home amid the last Egyptian plague. Since that event, they would continue to sacrifice a lamb in memory of God's faithfulness in saving His people.

Even though Jesus had predicted His death, the disciples still did not comprehend all that Jesus would suffer. As He offered the cup and broke bread at their side, they could not fathom all that Christ would soon endure for them to have forgiveness and eternal life in His name. While the priests before Him could only offer up a sacrificial lamb in their place, only Jesus could truly be the sacrifice needed to atone for sin. He was the promised eternal Lamb of God who died in our place that we may truly live.

Explain to kids that the disciples did not initially have the full picture of God's great plan of redemption as we do today. Unlike the disciples, we have the entire Bible before us to know Jesus as the object of our faith and experience everlasting life through Him.

Terms to Know

The Last Supper: the last meal Jesus shared with His disciples before the crucifixion. This new tradition, a celebratory communal meal, forms the heart of Christian worship and will be celebrated until the second coming of Christ.



OPENING ACTIVITIES

WELCOME

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to build relationships and help new kids connect to your group.

ACTIVITY PAGES

Invite kids to work on their coloring or activity pages before heading to Large Group.

- K12 has the “What’s the Meal?” activity page.
- 345 has the “What Is Different?” activity page.

Connect the Dots: To help prepare kids for the Bible story in Large Group, you can ask something like, “What is your favorite food to eat at dinnertime? Do you like to eat big meals with other people? Why or why not?”

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

- On the whiteboard, write out the memory verse and reference. Have the kids read the verse aloud together.
- Erase 1-2 words from the board and have the kids read the verse again, including the erased words from memory. Erase 1-2 more words and have them do it again.
- Repeat until the entire verse is erased and kids can say the whole verse without reading it.
- Continue to review the hand motions with the kids in your class. Say the verse out loud while doing the motions 1-2 times as a class.



AFTER LARGE GROUP

K12 ACTIVITY

Classroom “Last Supper”

- Roll out the provided brown butcher paper on the floor. Have kids sit around the “table” and put crayons and markers in the middle.
- Invite kids to draw different types of food to create a class-wide shared “dinner”. While they draw, ask questions about the lesson, review the story and/or have the kids act out the story.

K12 CRAFT

Last Supper Scene

- Pass out the cardstock/construction paper, brown paper strips, tape, and glue sticks. Give each kid **13** popsicle sticks (for Jesus and his 12 disciples).
- Help kids tape or glue the brown strips to the larger piece of paper. Only seal the bottom and sides of the paper, creating a pocket on the top.
- Kids can use markers and crayons to turn the 13 popsicle sticks into Jesus and the 12 disciples. Once done, put each of them into the pocket to make the last supper scene.

Connect the Dots: To help kids connect the Bible story with the craft, you can say something like, “Jesus and His disciples shared a meal the night before Jesus died on the cross. Jesus knew what was going to happen and told everyone to remember Him by breaking bread together.”

345 ACTIVITY

Gym Day!

- It’s Gym Day for our older kids! After Large Group, take your class to the gym to play.
- Kids can decide what to play, or you can choose from the list of games in your binder.



AFTER LARGE GROUP

REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

Distribute Bibles to each kid who needs one and have everyone open them to **Matthew 26**, **Mark 14**, or **Luke 22**. Then, read and review the Bible story below.

JESUS SHARED A LAST MEAL

Jesus and His disciples were in Jerusalem to celebrate Passover and remember how God had delivered His people from slavery in Egypt. Jesus sent Peter and John to get the Passover meal ready. He said, "Go into the city, and you will meet a man carrying a jug of water. Follow him."

Jesus said that the man with the water would go to a house, and the homeowner would show Peter and John a large room upstairs with furniture in it. That was the place Jesus wanted them to get the Passover meal ready. So Peter and John did as Jesus said.

When the Passover meal was ready, Jesus and His disciples reclined to eat. Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray Me." The disciples were upset, but Jesus knew this was part of God's plan. Each of Jesus' disciples asked, "Surely not I, Lord?"

But when Judas Iscariot (iss-KAR-ih-aht) said, "Surely not I, Teacher?" Jesus said, "Yes, it's you."

Then Jesus took the bread, gave thanks to God for it, broke it, and then gave it to His disciples to eat. Jesus said, "This is My body, which I am giving for you. Do this to remember Me."

Jesus took the cup and gave it to His disciples. They drank from it, and Jesus said, "This is My blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." Jesus showed His disciples with the bread and the drink that He is the true Passover Lamb.

They sang a hymn together, and then they went out to the Mount of Olives outside the city.

CHRIST CONNECTION

God's people had broken the old covenant, and God promised to make a new covenant to forgive sins. **He sent Jesus to make a new, even better promise.** The new covenant says everyone who turns away from sin and trusts in Jesus' death and resurrection will be forgiven of their sins and have eternal life.



AFTER LARGE GROUP

DISCUSS THE BIBLE STORY

After reading the Bible story, ask the following questions and lead the group to discuss.

- Jesus' meal with His disciples is also called the Lord's Supper. Why did Jesus say to take the Lord's Supper in remembrance of Him?
- Why is the new covenant better than the old covenant?
- How does Jesus' sacrifice take away our sin?
- Can anyone take the Lord's Supper? Why not?

HAVE EXTRA TIME?

Play Bible Charades as a class! Write different characters, events, or stories from the Bible onto pieces of scrap paper. Have the kids take turns drawing a piece of paper and acting it out until the class can guess what or who they are.

BEFORE YOU GO...

Review the gospel and encourage kids to speak with you or another leader if they have questions. Then pray, thanking God for Jesus' power over sin and death. If time allows, let kids keep working on their coloring or activity pages.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!