

LESSON 4

THE LAST SUPPER

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Wants Us to Remember His Death

SCRIPTURE: [Luke 22](#)

GOD'S BIG STORY: At His last supper with His disciples, Jesus introduces Communion and asks His disciples to use the bread and the cup to remember His death.

Free Play

Declaration

Worship

Snack

Prayer and Blessing

God's Big Story

Activity: Memory Moves

INVITATION

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

Sharing meals together is a natural part of life. While walking with Jesus from town to town, the disciples and Jesus ate together as good friends do. In [Luke 22](#), we see what Christians traditionally refer to as the Last Supper. Take time now to read [Luke 22:7–20](#).

It was time to observe Passover, and Jesus gathered His disciples together to partake of this sacred feast. I wonder if the disciples thought this was just another meal they were eating together. Yes, it had the significance of being Passover, but do you think they realized this was the last supper they would eat with Jesus before He died?

Jesus spoke some powerful words to prepare the disciples for what was just mere hours away. This special supper has become the foundation of an important ritual. Churches all over the world remember Jesus' death by observing the Lord's Supper or Communion.

Whether we physically partake of a drink and food to remember Jesus' death or simply set time aside to sit in Jesus' presence, it is so important that we remember what He did for us. His sacrificial death removed the eternal consequence for sin and provided the way for us to walk daily with Jesus. As we remember His death, may we never forget how our Savior showed His ultimate love to us.

DID YOU KNOW?**FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS****WHO?**

Jesus shared the Passover Feast with His 12 disciples. He gave Peter (also called Simon) and John (self-described “the disciple Jesus loved”) the task of preparing for the meal according to His instructions. Judas Iscariot served as the group’s treasurer and betrayed Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane.

WHAT?

Judas agreed to betray Jesus to the chief priests. Then Jesus shared the Passover meal with His disciples, knowing that His suffering was near. Jesus told the disciples to remember His death as His body would be given for them and His blood poured out.

WHERE?

Jesus and His disciples shared the Last Supper in the upstairs guest room of a house within the city walls of Jerusalem. Because it was a two-story house, it was likely owned by a somewhat wealthy person and located in the Upper City near the temple.

WHEN?

This story happens during the Passover Feast, when Jewish people remembered how God delivered His people from slavery in Egypt. It comes just before Jesus was betrayed in the garden of Gethsemane, which led to His suffering and death on the cross.

CONNECTING TO GOD’S BIG STORY

During the Last Supper, Jesus referred to the cup as “the new covenant in my blood” (Luke 22:20). Jesus was about to give His life and pour out His blood to achieve a new and greater deliverance than the exodus—deliverance from sin and death.

Free Play

As kids arrive...

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

SUPPLIES: plastic or paper plates, assortment of pretend food, napkins, place mats, etc.

Welcome! Today we are going to hear a story from the Bible about a very special meal that Jesus ate with His friends, the disciples. Let's have some fun by pretending that we are having a special meal together too.

Invite the kids to freely play with the supplies and have a pretend meal. With your assistance some kids might have fun setting the table as part of their play. You can encourage them to set out plates and napkins at each spot and even add table decorations like flowers.

We are going to hear about how Jesus gave His friends a piece of bread and a cup with a drink to remember Him after He was gone, because Jesus wants us to remember His death. We remember Jesus' death, and we remember how much He gave for us.

Our Wonder Truth today is **JESUS WANTS US TO REMEMBER HIS DEATH.**

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

JESUS—*Point up.*

WANTS US—*Point to self.*

TO REMEMBER—*Point to head.*

HIS DEATH—*Use the index finger of one hand to touch the palm of the other hand, and then alternate.*

Clean Up

At the end of free play...

Play the Clean Up video and encourage kids to help clean up toys to prepare for worship, snack, and story time. After working together to clean up, gather kids on sit spots to say the declaration together.

Declaring God's Wonder

Welcome! I'm so glad you are here today. Stand up and repeat after me:

Thank You, God, that You made me! (*Kids repeat words and motions.*)

Make prayer hands, then point up to God and to yourself.

And I am Your kid! (*Kids repeat words and motions.*)

Put your hands on your hips.

Jesus loves me so much; (*Kids repeat words and motions.*)

Spread your arms out wide to your side one at a time, then pull them in for a hug around your chest.

His love for me is big. (*Kids repeat words and motions.*)

Hold your arms up high and wide above your head.

The Holy Spirit leads me, (*Kids repeat words and motions.*)

Bring your arms down from the sky, making a path in front of you.

And I can follow You. (*Kids repeat words and motions.*)

March like you're following the leader.

My life can tell Your story, (*Kids repeat words and motions.*)

Hold your hands in front of you like an open book.

I'm a wonder; this is true. (*Kids repeat words and motions.*)

Put your hands up, shaking your fingers, celebrating ("praise hands").

Worship

SUPPLIES: Worship music videos

Today, we're learning how Jesus wants us to remember His death. We'll learn in God's big story how Jesus helped His friends have a way to remember His death and how it helps us remember too.

Play songs and encourage the kids to sing and dance with you.

Snack

SUPPLIES: small paper cups, cheerios, pitcher of water

Gather kids around snack tables and serve snack. After praying, begin the Bible story while kids are busy eating.

Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God.

God, thank You for Jesus, and thank You for all that He gave for us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: As you remember the death of Jesus, may you rejoice in His great love for you!

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bible

Our story today is a great story from the Bible about Jesus and His friends, the disciples.

Encourage the kids to say, “disciples.” **Let’s find out from the Bible what happened when Jesus and the disciples had a very special meal together.**

Jesus and His disciples went to a town called Jerusalem for this special meal. Let’s take a quick walk, like we are heading to Jerusalem. Invite the kids to move their arms like they're walking. **We made it! When it was time to eat, Jesus and His disciples sat at the table. During this meal, Jesus had something very important to talk with His friends about. Jesus told them that He was going to die soon.**

So, when they were eating, to help His friends understand what was going to happen, Jesus took bread and handed some pieces to His disciples. I’m going to pretend like I have some bread, and I am going to share it with you. Act out breaking the bread and then pretend to pass it around the circle. Keep the kids engaged by saying each child’s name as you go around the group. **Jesus said, “Every time you eat it, remember me” (from Luke 22:19). The broken bread was like Jesus’ body when He died on the cross.**

After supper, Jesus took a cup. Can you pretend to hold a cup? Hold your pretend cups up and then set them down in front of you. **Jesus told the disciples that the drink was another way to remember. Jesus was going to die, and He wanted the disciples (and us) to remember His death. Let’s tap our heads like we are remembering something very important, because we are!** Demonstrate tapping your forehead with your index finger. **We can remember Jesus’ death and His great big love for us.**

Activity: Memory Moves

In our story, we learned about Jesus teaching His disciples to remember His death with bread and a drink. Let’s do some moves to help us remember too. Our action for bread will be a fist with one hand sitting on top of the other hand—palm open like a plate with a loaf of bread on it. Let’s try it. When I say “bread,” do that action with your hands. Say “bread” and encourage the kids to do the action. **Now we’ll pretend to be drinking water out of our cupped hands together when I say “cup.”** Say “cup” and encourage the kids to hold their hands together cupped and pretend to drink from them.

Invite the kids to face you. Explain that you’re going to call out different motion words like “sit,” “spin,” “clap,” and “dance,” but that you’ll also sometimes say the words “bread” and “cup.” The kids should do whatever motion or movement you call out, including making the signs for bread and cup. Your job as the game leader is to create a fun mix of movement and motions to keep the

kids moving and remembering the special bread and cup from the story. Start off slow, and then increase the speed of their movement as they get the hang of the activity.

You all did a great job following the motions and remembering the signs for the special bread and cup actions to help us remember His death and His love for us.