



The Son of Man Anticipates His Death

Luke 22:7–20, 39–46



LESSON GOAL

Students will learn about the significance of the Passover and how Jesus is the Passover Lamb.

BIBLE TRUTHS

- God gave Israel the Passover to remind them of what He had done.
- During the Passover supper, Jesus told His disciples to remember Him.
- Our sin requires the perfect sacrifice of Jesus Christ's death.

KEY VERSE

“This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.’ Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you’” (Luke 22:19b–20).

APPLICATION

- Thank God that He sent Jesus to be the perfect sacrifice for sin.
- Obey Jesus by remembering what He did on the cross.

NEXT WEEK

The Son of Man Is Crucified
Read Luke 22:47–53, 23:26–49.

Symbol Key



Craft



Finger Play



Memory Verse



Object Lesson



Game



Visual Aid



Center



Activity



Q & A



Age Group

PREPARE WITH THE TRUTH

“Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul.... You shall teach them to your children” (Deuteronomy 11:18–19).

Please take time to prepare your mind and heart to accurately handle the truths of God’s Word (2 Tim. 2:15). Read through the Bible background and study the truths contained in this lesson. Crucial background information is included here to aid you in understanding the Scripture.

Bible Background

Introduction

Luke was a Gentile physician and a careful historian who recorded many details that the other Gospel writers did not. In Luke 22:7–20, Luke describes the events of the Passover meal on the night before Jesus’ death. In the upper room, the disciples prepared the Passover and celebrated it together. All faithful Jews who lived outside Jerusalem traveled to the city annually, because they would not celebrate the Passover in any other place (Deut. 16:5–6; Luke 2:41–43). Although the Passover had been celebrated for many years, during this Passover Jesus would change its significance forever.

Matthew 26 and Mark 14 are parallel passages that help to fill in details of the night’s events. Exodus 12–13 provides helpful background regarding the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. First Corinthians 11:23–34 better explains the significance of believers taking part in the Lord’s Supper today.

Need for a Sacrifice

Throughout history, God made it very clear that the wages of sin always is death. He graciously allowed animals to serve as substitutes and coverings for sin in Old Testament times. These sacrifices were not sufficient in and of themselves to pay for sin, but they looked forward to the complete and real atonement that one day would come through Christ’s death (Heb. 9:11–27). Even before Moses gave the laws regarding sacrifice, events in the earliest chapters of Genesis—God’s provision of animal coverings (Gen. 2–3), His requirements for certain sacrifices (Gen. 4), and His provision of a sacrifice for Isaac (Gen. 22)—all pointed to the need for a sacrifice. From the book of Exodus, we learn that lambs without blemish were selected to live with the people for a number of days. When these lambs were sacrificed, their blood was a covering that preserved the believers from death. God designed all of these events, along with the sacrificial system, to point forward to Christ’s atoning sacrifice.

Preparation for Passover

On this Thursday, the eve of the Passover and the night of Jesus’ betrayal, Jesus gathered His disciples to partake of the Passover supper. The Passover was a special meal that was celebrated once a year to commemorate God’s delivering Israel from Egypt. Israel had been in bondage for over 400 years, but by God’s mercy and power, they were brought safely out of Egypt to the Promised Land. This land had been promised to Israel’s forefathers long before the exodus took place. In preparation for the exodus, God used plagues to demonstrate His power and eventually to deliver Israel from Egypt. The last of the plagues was the death of the firstborn. This could be avoided only by applying the blood of a lamb to the door-

posts and lintels of the house. The lamb was then to be eaten with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. That is what constituted the Passover meal. Each time the Passover meal was eaten, it would be a memorial to remind the people of how God had delivered them from Egypt. Luke 22:7 refers to the eve of Passover, which would have been Thursday evening. Jesus would be crucified the next day before the Passover ended at sunset.

Peter and John, the most trusted disciples, were to prepare the meal, which would include a Passover lamb with a number of other symbolic features:

- A bowl of salt water to remind them of the tears they shed in slavery and the crossing of the Red Sea
- A mixture of bitter herbs with horseradish to remind them of their bitter slavery
- Hyssop to remind them of the blood of the lamb that was spread on their doorposts
- A sauce made of crushed fruit and nuts to represent the clay and mud that they used to make bricks
- Sticks of cinnamon to remind them of the straw that they used in making bricks
- Unleavened bread to represent the haste of their exit and the influence of their old lives, which was to be left behind
- Four cups of wine to remind them of the covenant of God

Other Events

The Gospel of John is the only Gospel that records the details of Jesus' washing the disciples' feet and teaching on love in the upper room (John 13:1–20), followed by extended teaching regarding Himself, the Father, the promised Holy Spirit, lessons on the vine and the branches, election, prayer, future glory and second coming, etc. (chapters 14–17). All four Gospels recount Jesus revealing His betrayer and then warning against desertion. Here, Peter and the other disciples adamantly say they will never deny Christ. Luke 22:21–22 balances divine sovereignty with human responsibility, showing that although God ordained the betrayal, Judas was completely responsible for his sin of choosing to betray the Lord who had loved him. Verse 23 shows that the disciples never suspected Judas; the very fact that he was chosen to be the treasurer suggests that he was considered trustworthy by the others. In the parallel passage of Matthew 26:18, Jesus told His disciples, "My time is at hand," referring to not just the time for the meal, but also the time to give His life as a ransom for many (20:28)—the reason He came. This driving purpose of Christ's life is seen in His words, "With fervent desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer" (Luke 22:15). Verse 16 says the Passover would be "fulfilled"; this was the culmination of Jesus' life and ministry.

When Jesus was born, the first people whom the angels told were shepherds in a nearby field. Some of their sheep likely were being raised for sacrifice in the temple at Passover. In the history of Jesus' life between His early years and before His adult ministry, it is recorded that He and His family went to Passover in Jerusalem (Luke 2:40–52). John also refers to Jesus in a prophetic sense when John the Baptist introduces Him. John says "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29b). According to Exodus 12:3, the lamb was to be selected on the tenth day of Nisan. The chronology of the Gospels suggests that Jesus entered Jerusalem on the tenth of Nisan in the year that He died—on the very day on which the Jews were selecting their lambs for slaughter, the Lamb of God Himself walked into the city as the representative sacrifice for His people. In fact, after they celebrated Passover that evening, they walked to the Mount of Olives (Luke 22:39) and crossed over the Kidron River, which was running red from the

temple toward Bethlehem with the blood of over 100,000 lambs being slaughtered for sin. Jesus fulfilled the symbolism of Passover in every way.

Prayer in Gethsemane

Redemptive history began in a garden (Gen. 1–3) and will end in a heavenly garden-city (“paradise restored”; Rev. 22:1–3). The centerpiece of history likewise was preceded by events in a garden—Gethsemane. Jesus did not change His habits to elude Judas; He went to his usual place to pray, and Matthew and Luke explain that only Peter, James, and John were nearby. Luke 22:42 shows the humanity of Christ as He asked the Father if He could remove the cup (a metaphor for His passion and death), but also shows His great example of submission to the Father’s will as the Son of God. More than the physical pain, it appears that the spiritual alienation from His Father was the most difficult aspect of what He knew was coming. The emotion and agony were incredibly intense, as Luke the doctor records—“His sweat became like great drops of blood,” suggesting a condition called hematidrosis, where the capillaries under the skin dilate and burst, mingling blood with sweat. Just as angels had come to strengthen Christ after His fasting and temptation in the wilderness, here again divine ministers came to His aid. Twice, He told Peter, James, and John to pray that they would not enter temptation. The difficulty must have been magnified for Christ, seeing His disciples argue about who was the greatest after all He told them in the upper room, and now seeing that His most intimate disciples could not even stay awake at His darkest moment and would soon desert or deny Him, while another disciple would even betray Him to death.

Several different sinful attitudes or actions toward Christ are shown in Luke 22. There are the Jewish leaders seeking to kill Him (22:1–2), the hypocritical pretender Judas volunteering to be a traitor of Christ (22:3–6), the disciples having selfish and prideful arguments (22:24), and Peter outright denying Christ (22:34). Through sinful men, God sovereignly moved history closer to the climax of redemption, and the shed blood that would cover all who would believe. The stage is now set for the crucifixion.

POINT TO THE TRUTH

*“Give ear, O my people, to my law; incline your ears to the words of my mouth”
(Psalm 78:1).*

This section includes questions to review last week’s lesson and ideas to prepare students for this week’s lesson. Choose from the following ideas to point to the truths of this lesson.



Peter and John Prepare for Passover

Materials: bowl of salt water, mixture of bitter herbs and horseradish, hyssop, sauce made from crushed fruit and nuts, cinnamon sticks, unleavened bread, four cups of grape juice

Directions: Set up the materials on a table in front of the class. Ask two assistant teachers or parents to dress up as Peter and John and stand behind the table, preparing the materials (pouring the salt water into the bowl, etc.) and explaining what each part of the meal causes them to remember about the Old Testament Passover. You may want to give them a copy of the “Preparation for Passover” section of the Bible Background to use as a reference. (Note: It also may be helpful



to do a more extensive study on the preparation and symbolism of the Passover meal's various elements. Helpful resources can be found at www.ahavta.org.)

Memorials

Show the students various items, such as a trophy, a Christmas stocking, an American flag, and a wedding ring. Discuss why we celebrate holidays and how particular days or items remind us of special events that happened. Explain that on the Passover night, Jesus gave His disciples two new memorials to help them remember what He was about to do for them.



Snack Time

Bring in some elements of the Passover supper—for instance, matzo (unleavened bread), grape juice, bitter herbs with salt-water dip, horseradish, sauce made from crushed fruit and nuts, and cinnamon sticks. The students will not like the taste of every item, but this can be used to introduce what was eaten during the Passover supper.



Find the Memorial

Hide pictures of various items or symbols around the classroom, and have the students search for them. Whenever a student finds a picture, he should tell a teacher what the object symbolizes.



Getting Ready

Ask the students how they get ready for church, for a trip, or for a meal. Then discuss how Jesus prepared for His death by teaching His disciples about the necessity of His death and by fulfilling the prophecy written about His death.

PROCLAIM THE TRUTH

"Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done" (Psalm 78:4).

This section includes the Bible lesson, lesson questions, and praise and worship ideas. Song suggestions are included that you can use to proclaim your worship to God. Use the lesson questions to check the students' understanding. This section also includes various presentation ideas to use during the teaching time. Read the Bible passage several times before you read these pages. All teaching should be done directly from the Bible.

Bible Lesson

Today's story takes place in the city of Jerusalem. Jesus has His disciples with Him, and they are about to celebrate a very special event, the Passover. The Passover was a very special celebration for the Jews, and it took place just once a year. It was a time when the Jewish people remembered their sins, sacrificed a lamb to God for forgiveness, and ate a special meal. Jesus wanted to do this with His disciples. Jerusalem is where they would have this special time together.

Our story begins with Jesus speaking with Peter and John. He told them, "Go and prepare the Passover for us." Peter did not know where they would have this meal because they did not have a house, but Jesus already had everything planned. He

told Peter and John that inside the city they would see a man carrying a water pitcher. They were to follow that man into the house and say to the owner, "The Teacher says to you, 'Where is the guest room in which I may eat the Passover with My disciples?'" When the disciples came into the city, everything was just as Jesus had said. So Peter found the man with the water pitcher and did exactly what Jesus had told him. Luke 22:13 says, "They departed and found everything just as He told them, and they prepared the Passover." The disciples prepared the food and got ready for the special celebration. Little did they know that on this day, the true Passover Lamb was preparing to die for the sins of the world. When the time was right, they all gathered in the special guest room with Jesus. He said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer." Jesus knew that the time was soon coming when He would give His life for the sins of all who would believe in Him. But first He wanted this time with these men.

Jesus told His disciples that He was to be the sacrifice for sin. No longer would a perfect lamb have to be killed for sin. Jesus was going to give Himself to die for all the sins of those who would trust in Him!

Jesus wanted His disciples to remember this time in a special way. During the Passover supper, He took a cup with wine in it. He gave thanks to His Father in heaven and shared the cup with His disciples, telling them to remember the sacrifice of the Lamb of God. He said, "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood."

God has had a plan since the beginning of time. This plan was that Jesus would one day die for sin. To teach Israel that they needed a sacrifice for their sin, God had required them to sacrifice a lamb for their sin. On this night of the Passover, Jesus showed the disciples how God's plan was going to unfold. Jesus Christ was the true, perfect Lamb who would once and for all take away the sin of all who would believe.



Lesson Questions

What holiday did the Jews celebrate to remember what God had done in Egypt?
The Passover.

How did Jesus tell the disciples to find the room for the Passover supper?
Jesus told them to look for a man carrying a pitcher of water into a house and find the owner of the house. Then, they were to tell him that the Teacher said, "Where is the guest room where I may eat the Passover with My disciples?" When they arrived, it was just as He had said.

What did Jesus do and say when He and the disciples were eating dinner in the upper room?
He took the bread and the wine and said that it represented His body, which would be broken for them, and His blood, which would be shed for them.

Presentation Ideas



A Beka Book Flash-A-Cards

Use appropriate A Beka Book Flash-A-Cards with the lesson.



Betty Lukens Flannelgraph

Use appropriate flannelgraph pieces with the lesson.



The Last Supper Skit

Have several leaders relate the events of the Passover beginning with Jesus' instructions to prepare the Passover supper with His disciples. This may or may not include the events in the garden.



Holidays to Remember

Ask the students to name some holidays, and then ask them why we celebrate those days. Explain that holidays are special times to remind us of something important. We celebrate these special events so that we don't forget what has happened in the past. Sometimes holidays remind us of things that we need to do. Resurrection Sunday is a holiday when Christians remember Christ's work on the cross and His power over death. It is a good reminder that we must be obedient to Him because of the salvation from sin that He accomplished on the cross.



Taking Home a Lamb, Part 1

Materials: small stuffed lambs

Directions: This three-week illustration will help the students understand what it means that Christ was the spotless Lamb who would be sacrificed for sin. During the teaching time, explain that Jesus was called the spotless Lamb who would take away the sins of the world. He came to earth to live a sinless life and to die as a payment for sin. Give each student a stuffed lamb to care for during the week. Instruct the students to bring their lambs back next Sunday. It may be a good idea to send a note with the parents, asking them to be sure that their children bring the lambs back next Sunday. (See continuing instructions in lessons two and three).

Praise and Worship

ABCDEFG

God Is So Good

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Praise Him, All Ye Little Children

Trust and Obey



The Passover Lamb

Each year, a special supper

(Spread hands out as though indicating a large spread.)

Reminded all the Jews

(Tap forehead.)

That as a payment for their sin

(Hang head.)

A sacrifice was due.

(Hold hands out, palms up, as though offering something.)

Christ ate with His disciples

(Pretend to eat.)

And told them something grand:

(Cup hands at mouth.)

This meal was meant to point to Him,
(Point outward, then upward.)

The final, perfect Lamb.
(Hold up one finger.)

When taking the Lord's Supper,
(Cup hands as though receiving something.)

The bread and then the cup,
(Hold out one hand, then the other.)

We think of Christ, the perfect Lamb,
(Point upward; nod head.)

Who gave His life for us.
(Place hands over heart.)

PRACTICE THE TRUTH

"That they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments" (Psalm 78:7).

Choose ideas from this section to review and apply the truths of the Bible lesson.



Deliverance Flip Book

Materials: copies of the "Deliverance Booklet" page, strips of brown construction paper, red paint, paintbrushes, scissors, glue

Directions: Give the students each a copy of the deliverance booklet, and help them to fold the pages along the dotted lines, accordion-style, and then glue the backs of the two middle parts together to form a three-page booklet. Then they should glue construction-paper strips on the left inside page of the booklet to form a doorframe, and to the right inside page to form a cross. Dab red paint on the doorframe and cross to represent blood.



Bookmark Reminder

Materials: copies of the "Bookmark Reminder" craft page, scissors, hole punchers, yarn, resurrection-themed stickers or small pieces of colored construction paper (to make a mosaic cross)

Directions: Give each student a bookmark with a hole punched a half-inch from the top. Help the students to tie a piece of yarn through the hole. Then they can decorate the bookmark with a mosaic cross or resurrection-themed stickers.



"A Perfect Sacrifice"

Materials: copies of the "A Perfect Sacrifice" craft page on cardstock, cotton balls, glue, tape

Directions: Give the students each a copy of the craft page, and help them to cut out the lamb and fold the body along the dotted line. Then help them cut out the lamb's head and along its mouth and then tape the head to the body. Next they

should cover the body with cotton balls, except for the head and legs. Cut out the message and insert it into the lamb's mouth, taping it securely from behind.

Coloring Pages

Give each student the coloring sheets from the back of the lesson. Students can color the pages in class or at home.



MEMORY VERSE

“This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.’ Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you’” (Luke 22:19b–20).

Deliverance Booklet

At Passover,
the Jews
celebrated
God
delivering
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Egypt.

At the
Lord's Supper,
Christians
celebrate God
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them from sin
(1 Corinthians 11:26).

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Bookmark Reminder

Remember Christ Delivers from Sin

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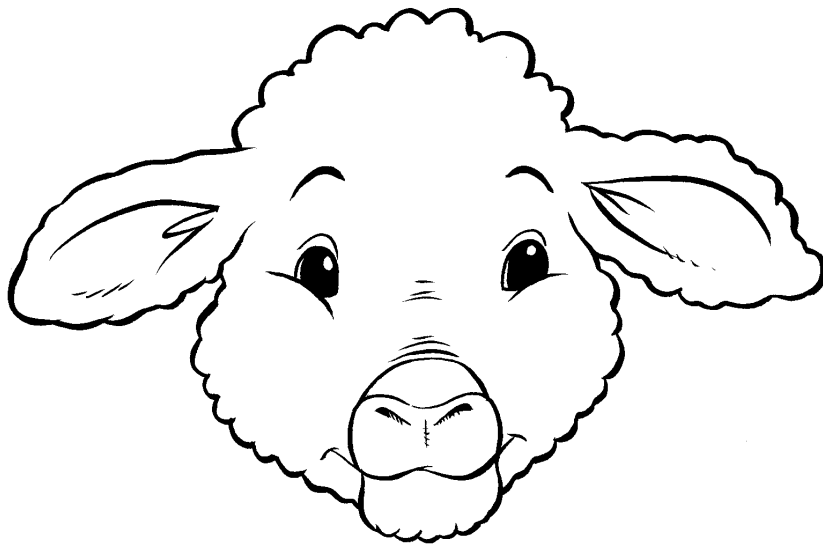
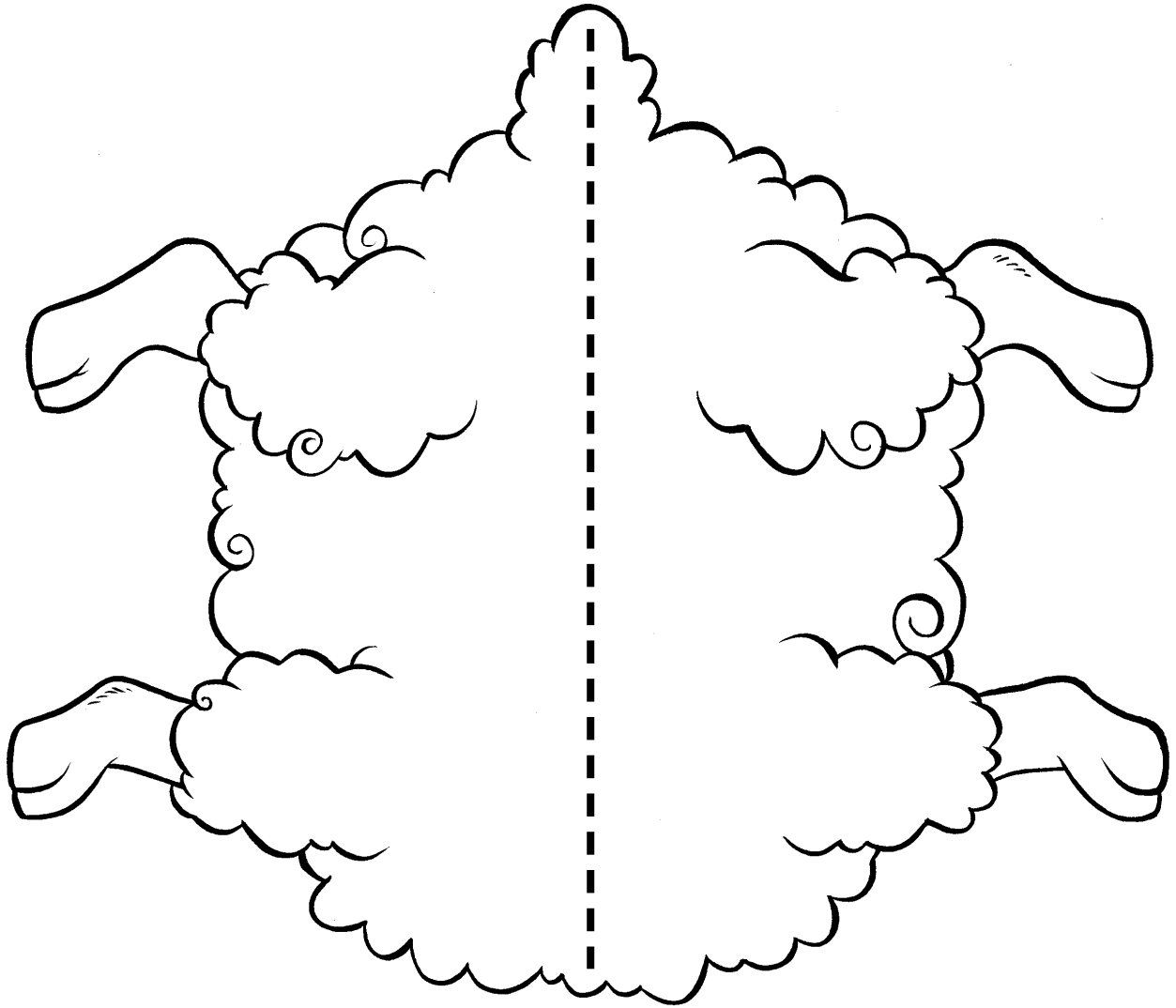
Remember Christ Delivers from Sin

Remember Christ Delivers from Sin

Remember Christ Delivers from Sin

Remember Christ Delivers from Sin

A Perfect Sacrifice



Jesus is the Lamb of
God who takes away
the sins of the world
(John 1:29).



“Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called Passover...When the hour had come, He sat down, and the twelve apostles with Him” (Luke 22:1, 14).



**“This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you” (Luke 22:19–20).**