

LESSON 4 FOR LEADERS

INVITATION

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

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Wants Us to Remember His Death SCRIPTURE: Luke 22 WORD OF WONDER: From Matthew 11:28

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.

-Ana Dutton

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LESSON 4 FOR LEADERS THE LAST SUPPER

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.





LESSON 4 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Activity: Cups on Cups

SUPPLIES: disposable cups (4-5 per kid)

Give each child a stack of cups to play with. I wonder if we can stack some cups on top of each other. Give the kids some time to experiment with stacking their cups. Some children will prefer to play individually with their cups, while others might be interested in combining their efforts with a friend. Both ways are fine.

What's your favorite drink? Milk, water, or juice? Allow the kids to respond. 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.





LESSON 4 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Prayer of Invitation

Before entering into God's big story, lead kids in a prayer of invitation. Use the prayer here or your own words: God, it can feel hard to talk about sad things. So, we ask that Your Holy Spirit fills our minds and hearts with peace today as we talk about and remember Jesus' death. Thank You for Your love and thank You for Jesus. In Jesus' name, Amen.

God's Big Story

Pull out the Bible

Ask: What is this called? <u>The Bible</u>

Ask: Why is the Bible important? <u>Because it is God's word. Everything in it is true.</u>

It really happened.

Tell the Bible Story

The Beginner's Bible, pages 442-445

The Last Supper

Word of Wonder

WORD OF WONDER

Come to me, all who are tired. I will give you rest.

-from Matthew 11:28