

### 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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## 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.



Belief

Faith

Identity

## LESSON 4 EARLY CHILDHOOD

# **Activity: Eating Time**

**SUPPLIES:** plastic or paper plates (1 per kid), assortment of pretend food, napkins, flowers, place mats, etc.

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

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.



Curiosity

Belief

Faith

Identity

### 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' name, Amen.

# God's Big Story

Pull out the Bible

Ask: What is this called? The Bible

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