

Do this in remembrance of me. (Luke 22:19c)

The Last Supper – Luke 22:14-20

Prepare to Lead

Activities At-a-Glance

GATHER TOGETHER

- Bread and Cup (Coloring/Craft)
- Disciples at the Last Supper (Drawing)
- In Remembrance (Puzzle)
- Modern Last Supper Menu (Activity)

EXPERIENCE WONDER

- Love Feast (Snack)
- Blessing the Food (Worship Activity)
- Peaceful Place (Response Activity)

WONDER MORE

- Cup and Plate (Art)
- Story Charades (Game)
- Imagine the Last Supper (Art)
- Table Blessings (Collaborative Activity)

Supplies At-a-Glance

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| <i>crayons</i> | <i>snacks such as cheese, olives, and pita bread</i> |
| <i>colored pencils</i> | <i>play food</i> |
| <i>markers</i> | <i>clear plastic cups and plates</i> |
| <i>scissors</i> | <i>tissue paper</i> |
| <i>pencils</i> | <i>glue</i> |
| <i>highlighters</i> | <i>butcher paper</i> |
| <i>paper</i> | <i>chalk</i> |
| <i>tape</i> | <i>loaf of bread</i> |
| <i>blanket</i> | |
| <i>pillows</i> | |
| <i>napkins</i> | |
| <i>paper plates and cups</i> | |

Suggested Books

- Signs of God's Love* by Jeanne S. Fogle
- Farmer Will Allen and the Growing Table* by Jaqueline Briggs Martin

Tips for the Leader

- When leading, welcome children on their level and let them know you are glad to see them. When they arrive, ask children to share their favorite animal.
- Be sure to choose the activities you would like and prep your supplies ahead of time. Make copies of reproducible pages that you plan on using.
- Did you know you can purchase full color activity pages that coincide with each session? If purchasing, consider sending the pages home along with the other take-home pages. Purchase at Cokesburykids.com.
- This session involves food. Be sure to check for allergies before serving food to children in your group.

Prepare to Wonder

Faith Word: REMEMBER

The Passover meal was celebrated each year to mark the Israelites' escape from slavery in Egypt. Jesus and his disciples would have observed Passover many times throughout their lives. This year, the Passover meal with Jesus would be different from others, but they did not know that. During this meal, Jesus gave thanks for the bread and broke it and then took a cup and blessed it. Jesus used the bread and the cup, everyday items, to remind the disciples of his body (the bread) and his blood (the cup), given for them and for us. They have become symbols of God's love in Christian churches today.

During Communion we recite the familiar words, "Do this in remembrance of me," and share the bread and cup to remember the life and death of Jesus. We all might practice and participate in Communion differently; however, we can remember Jesus and his example by simply sharing a meal. Whether we share a meal with friends and family or come forward to receive the elements in worship, we have the opportunity to remember.

Our Scripture contains two rituals of remembering, Passover and Communion. You'll want your children to understand that the rituals of their faith have meaning. They should understand that the ritual of Communion is something that we do to remember Jesus. However, it is not our only ritual, and children should know that they can remember Jesus and their faith in other ways, even when they are away from church. This session will help the children understand why we have faith rituals and that they can use their creativity to remember and keep their faith active anywhere they go.

Spiritual Practice for Adults

This week, make or serve your favorite meal. Enjoy this meal with friends and family. As you share the meal, go around the table and invite each person to choose a way she or he can be a blessing to others.

Gather Together

Use the following as optional activities for when children are arriving. You may also choose to use these activities elsewhere in the lesson.

Bread and Cup – Preschool

Supplies: Reproducible Kids' Book, crayons, scissors, cardstock (optional)

Prepare Ahead: Photocopy "Bread and Cup" (Reproducible 2A) on to cardstock for each preschooler.

- Give each preschooler a copy of "Bread and Cup."

SAY: In our Bible story today, Jesus will do something special with a loaf of bread and cup of juice.

ASK: What do you remember about Jesus?

- Invite children to color and cut out the bread and cup.
- Encourage children to bring their bread and cup to the story circle and to interact with their figures while listening to the Bible story.

Disciples at the Last Supper – Younger Elementary

Supplies: Reproducible Kids' Book, pencils, crayons or colored pencils

Prepare Ahead: Photocopy "Disciples at the Last Supper" (Reproducible 2B) for each child.

SAY: Our Bible story today is about a special meal that Jesus shared with his disciples. It may be a story that you have heard before.

ASK: How do you think the disciples felt to share a special meal with Jesus?

- Distribute a copy of "Disciples at the Last Supper" to each child.
- Have the children draw what the disciples faces might have looked like at the Last Supper.

Tip: Photocopy this activity on both sides of the paper for each child. Have the children complete the activity before hearing the story and after hearing the story to compare.

In Remembrance – Older Elementary

Supplies: Reproducible Kids' Book, Bibles, pencils, highlighters

Prepare Ahead: Photocopy "In Remembrance" (Reproducible 2C) for each child.

- Give each child a copy of "In Remembrance."

SAY: Our Bible story today is about the Last Supper.

ASK: What do you know about the Last Supper?

- Encourage the children to circle or highlight the words from the story in the puzzle.

Modern Last Supper Menu – All Ages

Supplies: Reproducible Kids' Book, pencils, crayons or markers

Prepare Ahead: Photocopy "Modern Last Supper Menu" (Reproducible 2D) for each child or group.

- Give each child or group a copy of "Modern Last Supper Menu."

SAY: Our story today is called The Last Supper. This was the last meal that Jesus shared with his friends and followers.

ASK: If you were to have a last meal with Jesus today, what would you serve?

SAY: Let's plan a Last Supper menu together.

- Divide the children into pairs or groups.
- Encourage groups to come up with a modern Last Supper menu. Children may write or draw their choices.
- Invite willing groups to share.

Tip: Group younger children with older children so that the older children can provide them with help for this activity.

Come Together

Supplies: Class Pack, Celebrate Wonder Bible Storybook, Wonder Box, purple cloth, battery-operated candle, a picture of Jesus or a variety of images of Jesus

Prepare Ahead: Set up a Wonder Table (see p. 3) with a purple cloth, battery-operated candle, and a Wonder Box (see p. 3). Display the Unit 1 Bible Verse Poster (Class Pack—pp. 10 & 15) and Faith Word Poster (Class Pack—p. 22) to use later in the session. Place the picture of Jesus inside the Wonder Box.

- Invite the kids to join you in a circle.

SAY: We are in the season of Lent and we are remembering stories of Jesus.

ASK: Have you ever had a special meal with someone?

- We recommend reading stories from the *Celebrate Wonder Bible Storybook*. Allow an elementary-age child to read the story, “The Last Supper” (pp. 240–241) from the storybook or read Luke 22:14–20 from a CEB Bible.

PRAY: God, thank you for all the special things Jesus did. Amen

Wonder Time

Share a Story

Supplies: Celebrate Wonder DVD, TV, DVD player

- Invite the children to join you and to sit in a circle on the floor.
- Watch the Session 2 video (Celebrate Wonder DVD).

WONDER: What helps you remember Jesus?

Interactive Bible Story

Supplies: Reproducible Kids’ Book, Bible dress-up clothes (optional)

Prepare Ahead: Photocopy today’s Take-Home Pages (Reproducibles 2F–2G).

- Invite several readers to take turns reading and/or acting out the story, one section at a time.

WONDER: Why do you think Jesus wanted his disciples to remember him?

Wonder with Me

Supplies: Class Pack, Wonder Box, scissors

Prepare Ahead: Lay out the Unit 1 Wonder Story Mat (Class Pack—pp. 11 & 14).

Locate and cut out the Unit 1 story figures (Class Pack—p. 6) if you haven’t already.

Display the Unit 1 Faith Word Poster (Class Pack—p. 22)

SAY: Today’s Faith Word is *remember*.

- Read the definition of remember from the Faith Word Poster.

ASK: What was special about the Last Supper?

- Have a child place the bread and cup on the Wonder Story Mat.

WONDER together:

- What do you think it would be like to share a meal with Jesus?
- Does the story of the Last Supper remind you of anything?

- What do you think Jesus' friends remembered about him?
- What do you think is inside our Wonder Box today?
- Open the Wonder Box to reveal the picture of Jesus.

WONDER: What do you remember about Jesus?

Experience Wonder

Love Feast – All Ages

Supplies: blanket, pillows, napkins, paper plates, cheese, olives, pita bread, hummus, paper cups, juice

Prepare Ahead: Lay the blanket on the floor and scatter the pillows. Place the food on the plates.

- Have the children sit in a circle around the Love Feast.

SAY: We don't know for sure what Jesus and his friends had at the Passover meal, but these were common foods in Bible times. We are going to share this snack together because we love Jesus and want to remember him.

- Let the children take turns choosing the foods they want to sample.
- Let's go around the circle and say one thing we remember about Jesus.

WONDER: What is your favorite story of Jesus?

Tip: Be sure to check for any food allergies before serving food.

Blessing the Food – All Ages

Supplies: paper, pencils, crayons, markers

- Gather the children in a circle.

WONDER: Where does our food come from? What kinds of food do you like to eat?

SAY: People all over the world grow and make our food, and it takes time to get to our tables. It's important to remember all the people who help us have food to eat.

- Invite the children to write or draw a prayer for those who make our food.
- Invite willing volunteers to share. Say the prayers together.

Examine the Bible Verse – Early and Older Elementary

Supplies: CEB Bibles

SAY: Our Unit 1 Bible verse is Luke 22:19c Let's find it in our Bibles.

ASK: Is Luke in the Old or New Testament? (*New*). Where is the Book of Luke located in the New Testament? (*third book*) In what chapter of Luke is our verse located? (*22*) What is the verse number? (*19*)

- Gather the kids around the Bible Verse Poster (Class Pack—pp. 10 & 15).
Read the verse together.

ASK: Does this story appear in any of the other Gospels? Let's see if we can find it.

Peaceful Place – Preschool and Early Elementary

Supplies: copies of the Unit 1 Faith Word (Reproducible Book 1F), Celebrate Wonder Bible Storybook, Signs of God's Love by Jeanne S. Fogle, Farmer Will Allen and the Growing Table by Jaqueline Briggs Martin, quiet toys and soft items, play food and dishes, pictures of the Last Supper, paper, crayons

Prepare Ahead: Photocopy the Unit 1 Faith Word Coloring Page (Reproducible 1F) for each child.

- Assist the children, as needed, as they interact with the items and books provided.
- Encourage children to color the Faith Word Coloring Page or draw the favorite part of today's Bible story.
- Encourage children to compare the pictures of the Last Supper. They may also choose to reenact the story with the items provided.

Tip: All of the supplies/activities suggested for the Peaceful Place are optional.

Wonder More

The following activities are supplemental to the session. Depending on your time, you may choose to skip these activities and go to the "Go in Peace" section.

Preschool – Cup and Plate

Supplies: clear plastic cups and plates, pieces of colored tissue paper, glue, scissors

Prepare Ahead: Cut or tear tissue paper into small pieces.

- Give each child a plastic cup and plate.
- Show the children how to glue the tissue paper onto the outside of the plastic cup and the underside of the plastic plate.

SAY: It doesn't matter if we use a plain cup and plate or a fancy one when we remember Jesus. The important thing is to remember Jesus and his love for us.

WONDER: What do you think Jesus and his friends talked about as they ate the meal?

Early Elementary – Story Charades

Supplies: paper strips or scraps, pencil, bowl or basket, timer

Prepare Ahead: Write the following words on small pieces of paper, fold up, and place in the basket or bowl: table, bread, cup, Jesus, disciples, eat, Passover, drink, supper, meal, blessed.

SAY: Let's play a game to help us remember today's Bible story.

- Direct the children into two teams.

SAY: Each team will choose a word and then one person from the team will act out the word. The rest of the team members will try to guess the word in 30 seconds. Each correct guess earns the team one point. The team with the most points wins.

- Play the game as long as time allows.

Older Elementary – Imagine the Last Supper

Supplies: CEB Bibles, paper, chalk, markers, images of the Last Supper

Prepare Ahead: Locate images of the Last Supper on the internet. You may choose to print these or show them electronically.

SAY: The Last Supper has been portrayed in famous paintings many times over the years. Later, we'll look at some of that art. For now, let's imagine what we think the Last Supper looked like.

- Distribute the art supplies. Have the children draw as you read Luke 22:14-20 aloud.
- Show the children different images of the Last Supper.

ASK: How is your art similar to these images? How is your art different?

Intergenerational – Table Blessings

Supplies: butcher paper, markers (or a dry-erase board and dry-erase markers)

- Divide participants into groups.

SAY: Since our story today is about sharing a meal, let's work together to write a table blessing.

ASK: What do you think we should give thanks to God for?

- Write down their ideas.

ASK: What do you think we should ask God for?

- Write down their ideas.
- On a separate piece of paper or on a whiteboard, work in groups to put the ideas together into a table blessing.

Go in Peace

Spiritual Practice – Exploring Ritual Through Remembrance

Supplies: hand sanitizer, loaf of bread

- Gather the children around the Wonder Table.

SAY: In our Bible story, Jesus shared a meal with his friends. Jesus broke the bread and gave it to the disciples. In church, we sometimes do this. We call it Communion.

- Show children the loaf of bread. Tear off a piece and pass it to the child next to you.

SAY: Jesus shares his love with you.

- Have each child tear off a piece of bread, hand the loaf to the next child, and say, “Jesus shares his love with you.”
- Pass the bread all the way around the circle, and then eat the bread together.

PRAY: Thank you, God, for all your goodness. Amen.

Tip: Have an extra loaf of bread ready in case children tear large pieces. Be sure to clean hands and check for any food allergies before serving the bread.

Family Spiritual Practice

Supplies: Reproducible Kids’ Book, Leader Guide—p. 128

Prepare Ahead: Photocopy “Family Celebration Letter” (p. 128) and the Take Home Pages (Reproducibles 2E–2G) if you have not yet done so already.

SAY: Let’s look at your Take-Home Pages for today. Ask your family to participate in the Family Spiritual Practice. Encourage your family to help you with the pages.

- Send a copy of the Take-Home Pages with each child.
- Send a copy of the Family Celebration Letter home with each child who has not yet received one.