

PHUMC Sunday School lessons for Preschool – 5th grade.

March 14, 2021 – The Last Supper (Luke 22:14-20)

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. On this Passover, Jesus used the Passover meal to begin the ritual that is still practiced by Christians around the world. We call it the sacrament of Holy Communion, the Lord's Supper, or the Last Supper.

The disciples, or the friends of Jesus, often had a hard time understanding and remembering things Jesus told them. Jesus wanted to give them a way to remember him and not forget the things he taught them. Jesus spelled it out for them, so they would not forget, by saying, "Do this in remembrance of me" (Luke 22:19c). The bread and the cup were normally on the table during mealtimes in Bible-times homes. Jesus used the bread and the cup, everyday items, to remind them of his body (the bread) and his blood (the cup), given for us. They have become symbols of God's love in Christian churches today.

The children will not grasp the symbolism of the Lord's Supper; it is often hard for adults to comprehend. However, children will begin to learn that the bread and the cup are special symbols in the church of a special meal we share. They begin to understand that meals, even our meals at home, can be special times of sharing and remembering Jesus and God's love for us.

Wonder with Me

READ the Bible Story

• The Last Supper, from Luke 22:14-20 (Read from your Bible, see the verses listed below, or see one of the following pages for a picture of the Celebrate Wonder version.)

¹⁴ When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. ¹⁵ And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶ For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God."

¹⁷ After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. ¹⁸ For I tell you I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

¹⁹ And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

²⁰ In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.

WATCH the Bible Story

https://youtu.be/qAOdFwmM9zY

SHARE the Faith Word

Faith Word: Remember – means to think about and not forget.

In our Bible story today we will hear how Jesus shared a special meal with his friends. During this meal Jesus told them to always remember him when they shared a meal together.

WONDER Together:

- 1. What do you think Jesus and his friends talked about as they ate the meal?
- 2. What helps you remember Jesus?

Spiritual Practice

• Share the Celebrate Wonder Family Activity Book together (page 6 & 7). On page 7 (and below) you will find the suggested Spiritual Practice activity for the week.

Remembering Jesus is sometimes hard in our fast paced lives.

This week invite Jesus to dinner with your family. During the meal, light a candle to remind you of the presence of Jesus. Eat slowly and speak softly.

Thank God for meals together that remind us Jesus is with us.

Go in Peace

Blessing: Touch your child and say: "God loves you; you are a blessing."

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for the love Jesus gives us. Amen.

Additional Activity for each age group

Select the material toward the end of the lesson that is age appropriate for your child(ren)



The Last Supper

Luke 22:14-20

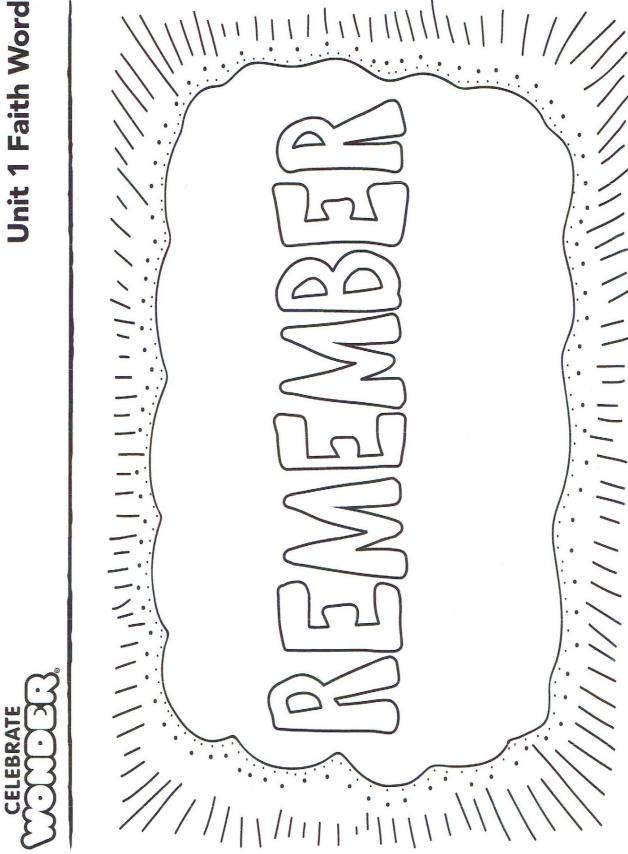
Jesus and his friends had traveled to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover feast. They couldn't wait to eat good food and celebrate God's love.

Jesus told his friends, "I am glad to eat this Passover meal with you."
Then Jesus held the cup and gave thanks to God. "Take this cup and share it." Then Jesus picked up a loaf of bread. He broke the bread, blessed it, and gave it to them. "Do this to remember me," said Jesus to his disciples. After supper, Jesus said, "This cup is the new promise, the new covenant. Drink it and remember me."

I wonder: Can you remember a time when you felt God's love?



Color Sheet for all



Preschool Activity Exploring Remembrance Through Ritual

Supplies: print this sheet to color after doing the spiritual practice activity, plates, cups, bread (or crackers), juice, napkins, and color crayons

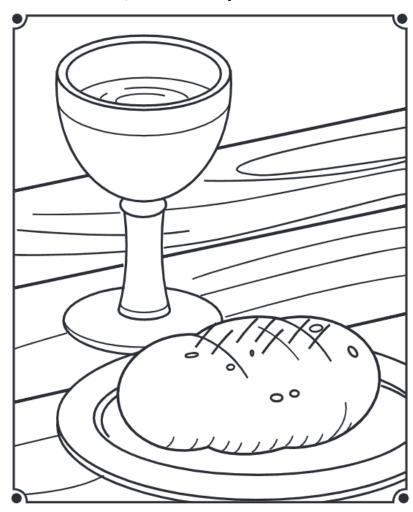
Say: Remind your child that a spiritual practice is something we do over and over again that helps remind us of God's love and brings us closer to God.

In our story today we heard Jesus say; "Do this in remembrance of me." He wanted his friends to remember him each time they ate a meal together. We can remember Jesus each time we eat a meal together too.

- Give your child(ren) a piece of bread (or cracker) and a small amount of juice.
- Guide the children through the following...

Say: As you chew the bread and drink the juice, remember that Jesus is with you and Jesus loves you all the time.

- Take the bread and chew if very slowly. Then take a sip of the juice slowly.
- Say a prayer to thank God for Jesus, who is always with us.



Early Elementary Activity Family Spiritual Practice

Supplies: battery operated candle

Remembering Jesus is important! This week invite Jesus to dinner with your family. During the meal, light a candle to remind you of the presence of Jesus. Eat slowly and speak softly. Thank God for meals together that remind us Jesus is with us.

Older Elementary Activity Family Spiritual Practice

Supplies: battery operated candle

Remembering Jesus is important! This week invite Jesus to dinner with your family. During the meal, light a candle to remind you of the presence of Jesus. Eat slowly and speak softly. Thank God for meals together that remind us Jesus is with us.

