

The Last Supper/ the Lord's Supper

Matthew 26:17-29



New Testament 5
Part 2: Jesus' Last Week

SUNDAY MORNING

New Testament 5 [Class Attendance Sheet](#) provided in activity sheets (NOTE: The document is interactive, allowing the teacher to type in the Class, Teacher, and the children's names.)

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

Matthew 26:17-29; Mark 14:12-17,22-25; Luke 22:7-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

MEMORY WORK:

YOUNGER CHILDREN: "Do this in remembrance of Me" (1 Corinthians 11:24b).

OLDER CHILDREN: "And when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, 'Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me'" (1 Corinthians 11:24).

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF LESSON FOR WORDS):

A [song book](#) and [audio recordings](#) of many of the curriculum songs are available on the curriculum Web site.

- ["Jesus Loves Me"](#)
- ["Make Me A Servant"](#)
- ["Tis Set, The Feast Divine"](#)
- ["Thus Remember Me"](#)
- ["Why Did My Savior Come to Earth?"](#)

LESSON VISUALS AND TEACHING AIDS (NOTE ANY DISCLAIMERS):

- See [AP's Pinterest page](#) for ideas on bulletin boards, visuals, crafts, etc. [DISCLAIMER: Pins may sometimes need to be adjusted to be Scriptural.]
- [Jesus' Ministry & Last Week](#) Bible fact cards (provided under "N.T. 5 Bible Facts" on curriculum Web site)
- "Summary of the Bible" from "[Kids Prep](#)" CD by Jeff Miller
- Betty Lukens' felt pieces
- Crucifixion and Resurrection A Beka picture set (DISCLAIMERS: use the cards, *not the lesson book*; note on cards CE 7.4, 7.5, and 9.1 that the holes would have been in Jesus' wrists)
- Pictures of national memorials (Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, etc.)



PERSONAL APPLICATION:

When the Lord's Supper is served, I will be respectful and quiet, and think about Jesus.

LESSON STARTS HERE

INTRODUCTION: (YOUNGER CHILDREN)

Review last week's lesson.

When something special happens that we want to remember, we take pictures and talk about it so we don't forget it (e.g., when your mom and dad got married, when you were born, a special trip you took, etc.). Jesus was about to do something very important, and He wanted His disciples (and us) to remember Him every week.

INTRODUCTION: (OLDER CHILDREN)

Review last week's lesson.

Show pictures of different national memorials, discussing what they mean and why they were built. People have used memorials for thousands of years so they would not forget important events/people. God even commanded His people in the Old Testament to build memorials. Jesus knew it would be very important for His Church (Christians) to remember His sacrifice—so He started a memorial to help us remember.

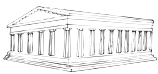
POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. On Thursday during Jesus' final week on Earth, He sent Peter and John into Jerusalem to prepare for the Passover meal, which would begin at sunset that day. Jesus wanted to spend the last precious hours of His life with those closest to Him—His apostles. Jesus told them that when they went into town, they would see a man carrying a water pitcher and that he would show them to an upstairs room. When the meal was ready that evening, Jesus went to the upper room with the Twelve. [Note His sorrowful statement in Luke 22:15-16.]

HISTORICAL NOTES: A **man** carrying a water pitcher would have been very noticeable since it was normally the job of **women** to get and carry water.

The Passover meal was eaten on the evening of the 14th day of the first month of the Jewish religious calendar (a lunar calendar), followed by the Feast of Unleavened Bread, which lasted for seven days. On our calendar, Passover falls in late March and early April. By New Testament times, these feasts were not only religious celebrations; they had turned into a big spring festival.

RECOMMENDED READING FOR TEACHERS: See the article "[Does the Bible Contradict Itself Regarding the Day of the Crucifixion?](#)" by Jeff Miller on the Apologetics Press Web site for a discussion about an alleged biblical contradiction regarding when the Last Supper took place in comparison to the crucifixion.



2. During the supper (Passover meal), Jesus taught His apostles about the importance of having a servant attitude, rather than an attitude that “lords” over others. He rose, took a towel and a basin of water, and began to wash the apostles’ feet. (Taking off His outer garment/cloak was an additional sign that He was a servant.)



RECOMMENDED READING FOR TEACHERS: See the article “[Veils, Footwashing, and the Holy Kiss](#)” by Dave Miller on the Apologetics Press Web site for a discussion about whether Christians are commanded to engage in those practices, which are mentioned in Scripture.

3. He then taught them a special lesson using the unleavened bread and the “fruit of the vine” that were part of the Passover meal. He said they should take these same things as part of a memorial to Him when He was no longer with them, i.e., after He died. Jesus broke the bread as He said that His own body would be broken. He said the “fruit of the vine” (or “the cup”) was a symbol of His blood, which would soon be shed so that all people could be forgiven of their sins. [It was also to be shed to begin a new covenant, or agreement, between God and His chosen people (i.e., the New Testament).] He told the apostles, “Do this [eat the unleavened bread and drink the “fruit of the vine”] in remembrance of Me.”



HISTORICAL NOTE: The Christians in Corinth abused this special time of worship, stuffing themselves with food and drink as if they were having a real meal instead of remembering Jesus’ death. In 2 Corinthians 11, Paul scolded the Corinthian Christians for their disrespect and dishonor toward Jesus.



RECOMMENDED READING FOR TEACHERS: See the articles “[Sunday and the Lord’s Supper](#)” by Dave Miller and “[What is the ‘Fruit of the Vine’?](#)” and “[What Kind of Bread did Jesus Use to Institute the Last Supper?](#)” by Kyle Butt on the Apologetics Press Web site for discussions about important elements of the Last Supper and the Lord’s Supper.

4. The Bible tells us that every first day of the week—Sunday—Christians are to copy what Jesus did at this “last supper” (Acts 20:7). The Lord’s Supper is a very important part of our worship to God each Sunday. As Christians take the bread and the fruit of the vine, we are to remember Jesus’ unselfish death on the cross that allows us to be forgiven of our sins (Matthew 20:28). [If children ask why they cannot take the Lord’s Supper, explain that it is only for those who have been baptized, who understand why Jesus died and what it means to them, etc.]



RECOMMENDED READING FOR TEACHERS: See the articles “[Did Paul want Christians to Come Together on Saturday or Sunday?](#)” and “[‘Breaking Bread’ on the ‘First Day’ of the Week](#)” by Eric Lyons on the Apologetics Press Web site for discussions about the phrase “breaking bread” and why we take the Lord’s Supper each Sunday.

5. The Lord's Supper is meant to **remind** us every week of Christ's sacrifice—what God did to give us forgiveness of sins and allow us to go to heaven.

PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—BEFORE CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

- Click here for complete [Activity Book](#).

Ages 2-5:

- [“The Last Supper Coloring Sheet”](#) (provided in activity sheets)
- Bring a plastic dishpan and towel to show how Jesus washed the apostles' feet.
- Bring items that “bring back memories” to share with the class. As you show these items, talk about what they help you remember. Discuss how Jesus wants Christians to remember what He did for us by taking the Lord's Supper each week.
- Sit in a circle with the children. Say the first book of the New Testament. Ask the child on your right to say the second book, the next child say the third, and so on until all the New Testament books have been said. **Or** roll a ball to each child, one at a time, and have him/her say the next book.
- For two and three year olds: On an 8½ x 11 inch piece of paper, use dots to make the outline of a cross so that the children can trace the outline (connect the dots). Make a copy on cardstock or construction paper for each child. Write the memory verse on each cross. Help the children cut out their crosses. Glue a small magnetic piece (or use magnetic tape) to the backs of the crosses. ([“Connect the Dot Cross Activity”](#) provided in activity sheets)
- For four and five year olds: On an 8½ x 11 inch piece of paper, use dots to make the outline of the words in the memory verse so that the children can trace the words (connect the dots). Make a copy on cardstock or construction paper for each child.

1st-2nd Graders:

- Divide the class into two teams and play “Tic-Tac-Toe” with clues from this and last week's lessons.
- Bring items that “bring back memories” to share with the class. As you show these items, talk about what they help you remember. Discuss how Jesus wants Christians to remember what He did for us by taking the Lord's Supper each week.
- Memory Verse Review: Write the words from this week's and last week's memory verses on index cards, one or two words per card. Make several sets. Separate the verses in separate plastic bags. Have children work in groups to put the words in the correct order. ([“Lesson 7 Memory Verse Cutouts”](#) and [“Lesson 8 Memory Verse Cutouts”](#) provided in activity sheets)
- Give each child a piece of cardstock/construction paper that has the outline of a cross printed on it. Ask the children to write, “Do this in remembrance of Me” on their crosses. Ask the children to cut out their crosses and glue a magnetic piece to the backs of their crosses. ([“Connect the Dot Cross Activity”](#) provided in activity sheets)

3rd-4th Graders:

- Divide the class into two teams and play “Tic-Tac-Toe” with clues from this and last week's lessons.
- Bring items that “bring back memories” to share with the class. As you show these items, talk about what they help you remember. Discuss how Jesus wants Christians to remember what

He did for us by taking the Lord's Supper each week.

- Memory Verse Review: Write the words from this week's and last week's memory verses on index cards, one or two words per card. Make several sets. Separate the verses in separate plastic bags. Have children work in groups to put the words in the correct order. ("[Lesson 7 Memory Verse Cutouts](#)" and "[Lesson 8 Memory Verse Cutouts](#)" provided in activity sheets)
- Give each child a piece of cardstock/construction paper that has the outline of a cross printed on it. Ask the children to write, "Do this in remembrance of Me" on their crosses. Ask the children to cut out their crosses and glue a magnetic piece to the backs of their crosses. ("[Connect the Dot Cross Activity](#)" provided in activity sheets)
- Have the children read the following:
 - 1 Corinthians 11
 - "The Lord's Supper" article from the [August, 2013](#) issue of *Discovery Magazine*
 - "Food That Helps Us Remember" article from the [February, 2007](#) issue of *Discovery Magazine*
 - "Who Wants to Wash Feet?" article from the [August, 2002](#) issue of *Discovery Magazine*
 - *Bethany Learns About the Lord's Supper*, by Vicky Billings
 - *Jesus Is Risen*, Contemporary Bible Series, Scandinavia Publishing House (DISCLAIMERS: p. 15—change "wine" to "fruit of the vine"; p. 43—change "power" to "your kingdom" and change "wine" to "vinegar" in both places it occurs; p. 53—note that the holes would have been in Jesus' wrists)
 - *Jesus Washes Peter's Feet*, by Glynis Belec, Arch books

SONGS:

"JESUS LOVES ME" ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Anna B. Warner

Jesus loves me this I know.
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong.
They are weak but He is strong.

CHORUS:

Yes Jesus loves me.
Yes Jesus loves me.
Yes Jesus loves me.
The Bible tells me so.

Jesus love me when I'm good.
When I do the things I should.
Jesus loves me when I'm bad,
Though it make Him very sad.

(CHORUS)

“MAKE ME A SERVANT” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Unknown*
(Tune: See Internet)

Make me a servant,
Lord, make me like you.
For you are a servant,
Make me one, too.

Make me a servant,
Do what you must do.
To make me a servant,
Make me like you.

“’TIS SET, THE FEAST DIVINE”

Author: Lloyd Sanderson
(Tune: See church song book)

[See Internet or church song book for lyrics]

“THUS REMEMBER ME”

Author: Lloyd Sanderson
(Tune: See church song book)

[See Internet or church song book for lyrics]

“WHY DID MY SAVIOR COME TO EARTH?” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: James Dailey
(Tune: See church song book)

VERSE 1:

Why did my Savior come to Earth,
and to the humble go?
Why did He choose a lowly birth?
Because He loved me so.

CHORUS:

He loved me so!
He loved me so!
He gave His precious life for me, for me,
Because He loved me so!

VERSE 2:

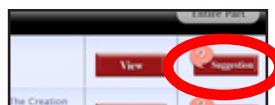
Why did He drink the bitter cup,
Of sorrow, pain, and woe?

Why on the cross be lifted up?
Because He loved me so.

(CHORUS)

*Author Unknown: Please contact us through the feedback button for this lesson if you are aware of any copyright information for this song.

*** IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS PERTAINING TO THIS LESSON, PLEASE CLICK THE
“SUGGESTION” BUTTON BESIDE THE BUTTON FOR THIS LESSON ON THE
CURRICULUM WEB SITE.



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WEDNESDAY EVENING

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PERSONAL APPLICATION:

When the Lord's Supper is served, I will be respectful and quiet, and think about Jesus.

INTRODUCTION:

Review [N.T. 5 Bible Fact Flash Cards](#) (provided under "N.T. 5 Bible Facts" on curriculum Web site)

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

Review Sunday's lesson (see [N.T. 5 Review Questions](#) for example questions)

Spend most of the class time talking about Jesus washing the apostles' feet. He used His last



RECOMMENDED READING FOR TEACHERS: See the article "[Veils, Footwashing, and the Holy Kiss](#)" by Dave Miller on the Apologetics Press Web site for a discussion about whether Christians are expected to engage in those practices, which are mentioned in Scripture.

few hours with them to teach them a personal object lesson: "If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you." None of us is more important than the other. All of us should serve/help each another. Read and explain Mark 10:44-45 to the students.

PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—**BEFORE** CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

See Sunday morning's lesson.

On a piece of construction paper or cardstock, print the words, "I can be a servant." Tape/glue a picture of each child on his/her paper and help them write (or let them write) ways they can serve others. [You will need to take each child's picture on Sunday (or contact the parents before Wednesday) so you can have the pictures printed and ready on Wednesday.]

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