



Seder (“say-dur”) Skit

All Grades – Seder in Big Group Version

Principle: God's provision and sacrifice

Scripture Reference: Exodus 12



PERSONAL PREPARATION: Before the weekend, please read Exodus 12. Read, looking for details of the Passover. Also read the attached Passover information so that you are able to walk the campers through and explain the significance of the Passover meal. Celebrate and praise God for His plan for salvation as you study and prepare for this week's lesson.



BIG GROUP Time: 50-60 minutes

Camp Competition & Worship: There will be no camp competition and the worship team will be off this Sunday, but is strongly encouraged to sit at a table and participate in the Passover Seder.

Skit

Roles:

Storyteller: introduces meal

Father: leads meal (wear a microphone)

Big Group drama team (assists with the meal and helps maintain a reverent atmosphere)

ProPresenter: Slideshow

Props:

Preparation area for food

Tables (1 per cabin; leave legs folded under so that campers will be sitting on the floor)

Father's Supplies: (set up on stage)

Seder plate (each food item will be placed on plate)

Seder cup half filled with grape juice

Small bowl of salt water

Scoop of horseradish
 Scoop of applesauce
 Piece of parsley
 1 sheet of matzah
 Lamb shank bone
 White linen napkin to hide the matzah (Afikomen) in
 Large bowl of water and hand towel

Table Supplies: (set up on each cabin's table – see set-up guide if need be)

Tray	
Grape juice	(1 bottle per table – remove label, but leave cap to help avoid spills)
Cups	(1 small cup per person)
	*Cabin leaders can fill each cup 1/2 full at the appropriate time
Salt water	(1 bowl per cabin)
Horseradish	(1 bowl per cabin, with 1 spoon)
Cinnamon applesauce	(1 bowl per cabin, with 1 spoon)
Parsley	(1 plate per cabin - enough pieces of parsley for 1 per person)
Matzah	(1 plate per cabin with 1 piece of matzah)
Large bowl of water	(1 per cabin)
Hand towel	(1 per cabin)



Order of Events During Teaching

I. Grape Juice (First Cup/sip)

*Cabin leaders can fill each cup 1/2 full at the appropriate time.
Please make sure to seal lids after pouring in order to reduce spills.*

1 cup lasts for the whole teaching; take only sips when told to drink (4 sips total)

2. Washing hands (Urkhatz)

Each person washes the hands of the person to his/her right, using the large bowl of water and hand towel.

3. Parsley dipped in salt water (Karpas)

4. Matzah

Take only small pieces when told to eat (each person will eat 5 pieces total throughout the teaching).

5. Horseradish (Maror)

Cabins will eat 1 small piece of matzah with horseradish on it.

6. Applesauce (Charoset)

Cabins will eat 1 small piece of matzah with applesauce on it.

Cabins will also eat 1 small piece of matzah with horseradish and applesauce on it.

7. Grape Juice (Second Cup/sip)

8. Lamb Shank Bone

Only the Father has this.

9. Matzah (Afikomen)

10. Grape Juice (Third Cup/sip)

11. Grape Juice (Fourth Cup/final sip)

Script

(Each small group will sit with their leader. The storyteller will sit on the edge of the stage.)

***SLIDE: "Passover Celebration"

Storyteller: I'm sure your small group leaders have already told you a little about our special service today. Remember, it's important to be quiet and reverent. Let's all listen very carefully to the teaching. Also, let's not touch or eat anything until we've been instructed to do so. Thank you. I know you're going to learn a lot. How many of you have taken part in a Passover celebration before? (Allow for responses.)

In small group, you just talked about how in the Old Testament Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites leave Egypt. They were his slaves. Pharaoh watched Egypt suffer from plagues of locusts, frogs, darkness, blood, hail, and more. Yet he would not let the Israelites go. Pharaoh was one stubborn and hardheaded guy! Finally, Moses warned Pharaoh that the worst plague of all would come to punish

Pharaoh for refusing to obey God: all the firstborn sons would be killed. Even then Pharaoh did not listen to God!

***SLIDE: picture of blood on doorframes

Because the Israelites were God's chosen people, he gave them a special way to save their firstborn sons. God said that each household should kill a young, innocent, and flawless lamb and spread its blood over their door frames. This was the only way God would pass them by – the blood of a lamb would cover them. This innocent lamb would die in place of their firstborn sons.

The Israelites listened to God and obeyed Him. The blood worked! God saw their covering and death passed over their houses and none of their firstborn sons died! God kept His promise to His people.

God told the Israelites this was a day to remember. Each year, from generation to generation, they were to celebrate it as a special festival to the Lord. This celebration would include a Passover meal that would help them remember the day that death passed over their homes.

Today we're going to have a Passover meal together much like the one that the Israelites had. We're going to eat the same foods they ate and talk about what each represented.

This meal reminds us of Jesus. Just like the Passover lamb's blood covered the Israelites. Jesus's blood on the cross covers us! When God looks at those who have put their faith in Jesus, death and judgment pass over them. Because of the blood of Jesus we can have eternal life with God.

Let's enjoy this meal and see how it shows us the God who saves!

Now, before a family could celebrate the Passover meal, their house had to be very clean and quiet. Before the meal, candles were lit. The candles stood for the light of the Holy Spirit.

***SLIDE: picture of candle/lantern

The oldest man or the father led the family in the Passover meal. Today, _____ will be leading us. Let's welcome _____ to our meal today!

Father: Introduce self (background / testimony)

Thank you for allowing me to lead you in this special Passover meal. Did you know Jesus actually led a Passover meal? He did! Who's heard of the Last Supper? The Last Supper was the final meal Jesus had with His disciples before He was crucified on the cross. This supper was actually the Passover meal! Because Jesus led the Passover meal, we know He thought it was important.

Psalm 34 tells us to "Taste and see that the Lord is good." Today we get to celebrate the Passover not only with our eyes and ears, but also through taste and smell. We get to fully experience a message from God. Some of this food you may not like, but it would be great if you tried it, or at least smelled it. This can help you learn a lot and worship Jesus.

The Four Cups of Wine

(***SLIDE) In a traditional Passover, there are four cups of wine. Today, we'll be using juice and just

one cup per person. These four cups are a symbol of the four promises God made about how He would save His people.

In Exodus 6 God said:

*"I will bring you out of Egypt...
I will free you from slavery...
I will save you by my own hand...
I will take you to be my own people and I will be your God."*

To remember these four promises, we sip from our cups four times.

Cup of Sanctification (Kiddush) (Have everyone try to say in Hebrew: "ki-desh.")

(**SLIDE) When Jesus had His last Passover (The Last Supper), He offered a cup to His disciples and said, "Take this, all of you, and drink from it" (Luke. 22:17). Let's hold up our first cup together and bless the Lord!

(Say the blessing in Hebrew & English, and then sip. Remind children to only take a sip.)

Washing Hands (Urchatz) (Have everyone try to say in Hebrew: "ur-khät's" – the "khä-" here makes a sort of throaty sound like in the word "Chanukah.")

(**SLIDE) In a traditional Passover, the Father would wash the hands of the person to his right and pass the cloth. Each of you will have a cloth. Wash the hands to your right. This symbolizes the scripture that says those with clean hands and pure hearts will stand in God's presence. Remember also that on Jesus' last Passover, He washed the feet of His disciples. He served them. By washing each other's hands, you are following Jesus' example in serving others.

(Wash the hands of the person to the right.)

Parsley (Karpas) (Have everyone try to say in Hebrew: "kahr-pah's")

(**SLIDE) Passover is a holiday that comes in springtime, when the earth is becoming green with life! This green parsley is the sign of LIFE. When the Israelites were slaves in Egypt, their life was miserable and full of many tears. The salt water stands for their tears. Our lives can sometimes be miserable and full of tears too – especially when we live in sin. We dip our parsley in the salt water and eat it to remind us of the Israelites tears and of how miserable our own sin makes us.

(Eat parsley dipped in salt water.)

Four Questions (Ma Nishtanah) (Have everyone try to say in Hebrew: "mah neesh-tah-nah")

(**SLIDE – next 4 slides) In a traditional Passover, the children ask four questions. The father gives an answer to each question. Today, we've put those questions on the screen.

(Ask for 4 volunteers who can read the questions)

1. On all other nights we eat leavened bread. On this night why do we eat only unleavened bread?

2. On all other nights we eat all kinds of vegetables. On this night why do we eat only bitter ones?
3. On all other nights we don't dip our vegetables even once. On this night why do we dip them twice?
4. On all other nights we sit on our usual seat. On this night why do we recline on soft cushions?

Why is this night so different from all other nights? Here are the answers to those questions.

The Answers...

1) Matzah (Have everyone try to say in Hebrew: "maht-suh")

On all other nights we eat bread with leaven (with yeast), but during the Passover, we eat only matzah, unleavened bread (without yeast). When the Israelites left Egypt, they were in such a hurry they didn't have time to let their dough rise. Instead, they baked it flat.

(**SLIDE: Matzah = The Body of Jesus; No Leaven = No Sin)

In the matzah we can see a picture of Jesus. See how it is striped and pierced? The Scriptures tell us Jesus was "pierced" for our sins and "by his stripes we are healed." (Isaiah 53:5) The matzah is also unleavened, which means without yeast. This reminds us that Jesus was without sin.

I have 3 pieces of matzah, representing the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

(Take the middle matzah and break it in half.)

Just as this middle piece of the bread of suffering is broken, the Son Jesus also suffered and was broken.

One half we save for dessert. It is wrapped in a white cloth just as Jesus' body was wrapped for burial.

(Wrap the matzah half in white cloth.)

The matzah is then hidden in the room. This represents Jesus' body that was put in a tomb, hidden for a little while. But just as the special piece of matzah will come out again to finish our celebration, Jesus came alive again!

Let us remember Jesus words in John 6:35: "I am the bread of life." As we eat a small piece of matzah, let us remember that we can only have true life in Jesus the Messiah.

(Everyone takes a small piece of matzah and then eats. Remind children not to snack on it while you are talking.)

2) Maror (The Bitter Herbs) (Have everyone try to say in Hebrew: "mah-rawr")

On all other nights we eat all kinds of vegetables, but during the Passover, we eat maror, bitter herbs. These BITTER herbs (holding up the horseradish) *remind* us how BITTER life was for the Israelites while they were slaves in Egypt. "...the Egyptians became afraid of the Israelite slaves and made them

work even more. They made their lives BITTER with hard work making brick and mortar and doing all kinds of work in the fields." (Ex. 1:12-14)

(**SLIDE: Bitter Herbs = Hardship of Life)

(Scoop some maror (horseradish) onto a piece of matzah and let the bitter taste bring tears to your eyes. Remind children that this is very spicy, and only to take a little; tell them that if they don't want to eat it, they should at least smell it.)

Remember, with compassion, the tears our ancestors cried in their slavery long ago, and remember the bitterness of our own slavery to sin when we do not allow Jesus to set us free.

(Eat matzah and maror.)

3) Charoset (Apple mixture) (Have everyone try to say in Hebrew: "khah-roh-set")

On all other nights we don't dip our vegetables even once, but tonight we dip them twice. We've already dipped the parsley in salt water. (Holding up the apple sauce) The Israelites worked very hard to make brick and clay to build cities for Pharaoh. We remember this in a mixture called charoset, made from apples, cinnamon, honey, nuts, and wine. This mixture reminds us of the mixture the Israelites used to bind bricks. Today, our charoset is simply applesauce.

(**SLIDE: Charoset = Brick & Clay)

(Now again, scoop some maror (horseradish) if you want onto a piece of matzoh, but this time, before eating it, dip it into the sweet charoset (apple mixture).)

4) Tonight We Recline

(**SLIDE: Jesus = Rest) On all other nights we eat sitting on regular seats, but for the Passover we relax and sit reclining. How many of you get to eat while lying around at home? The first Passover was celebrated by a people enslaved. The Israelites were told to eat the Passover quickly, their coats ready, their walking sticks in their hands, their sandals on their feet, ready to leave the bondage of Egypt. Today we all may relax and freely enjoy the Passover meal. Jesus said, "Come all who are tired, and I will give you REST." (Matthew 11:28)

The Cup of Plagues - The Second Cup

(**SLIDE: The Second Cup) In Exodus 6:6 God told the Israelites "I am the Lord. I will free you from slavery." God kept his promise by sending 10 plagues.

(Ask: "Who can name some of the plagues?" Blood, frogs, hail, boils, cattle disease, locusts, flies, etc.)

As we drink (just sip) this second cup, let's remember that God doesn't want us to be SLAVES to sin, but similar to the Israelites, he wants us to be FREE.

Passover Lamb

(**SLIDE: Passover Lamb) Before the Exodus from Egypt, God told the Israelites to kill a lamb and put the blood on the doorway to their home. (Hold up lamb shank bone.) This lamb shank bone reminds us of the lamb that was sacrificed.

This, I think, is the most important part. In the Old Testament, only the blood of a sacrifice (done in faith) would protect someone from God's wrath. For us, faith in Jesus' blood sacrifice for our sins is the *only* thing that will protect us from God's wrath

Today this lamb shank bone reminds us of Jesus. Just like the Passover lamb's blood covered the Israelites, Jesus's blood on the cross covers us! When God looks at those who have put their faith in Jesus, death and judgment pass over them. Because of the blood of Jesus we can have eternal life with God.

This is so huge! In the book of Revelation (the final chapter of the Bible), Jesus is called the "Lamb of God" more than every other name combined! Jesus is our lamb – because of his blood, God passes over us!

Let's take a closer look at the Passover Lamb for the Israelites and how Jesus fulfilled that sacrifice for us.

(Go through slides for each section below – 4 slides total.)

Exodus Passover Lamb	Jesus, the Lamb of God
Choose a lamb and bring it into your home on the 10 th day of the month.	Palm Sunday: Jesus chose Himself and willingly came to Jerusalem.
Lamb must have no flaw.	1 Peter: "Jesus is the unblemished Lamb." He was innocent and never sinned, and so He could die for our sins.
Kill and put the blood on door frame of your house. If a home didn't do this, the firstborn son would be killed.	Jesus blood pays the price for our sins. We need to "apply" the blood by faith in Him. If we believe that Jesus is God and died for us, we are protected from judgment and death.
At judgment time, God only looked for and saw the blood of the lamb. Whoever obeyed in faith, would not be judged.	When I stand at judgment day, God will look for faith, and only see Jesus's blood, and not my sins.

****If you have questions about where you are in your relationship with Jesus, talk to your parents or your cabin leaders.**

Two Final Elements

(**SLIDE) You may be familiar with these last two parts of our meal, because we participate in this at Communion. For someone who has put his or her faith in Jesus, this is something we do to remember what he did for us on the cross.

Afikomen ("That which comes after") (Have everyone try to say in Hebrew: "ah-fee-

koh-muhn")

Remember how we broke the middle piece of matzah and wrapped it in white cloth? Remember how Jesus' body was crucified, wrapped up, and buried? Well, as a symbol of His resurrection, we now bring back that piece of matzah (representing His body)! This is when Jesus said, "This is my body, which is given for you."

(Break and eat.)

Cup of Redemption – Third Cup

In the Bible, a cup represents judgment and wrath. God has every right to be angry with us for our sins. The book of Romans says that we were His enemies – not a good place to be. But God took all that anger/wrath that He had for our sins, and He poured it out on His only Son, Jesus. Jesus said of this cup, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood which is poured out for you."

(Drink/sip.)

Cup of Praise – Fourth Cup

(**SLIDE: The Fourth Cup) We can PRAISE God that He loves us, and that just as He saved Israel from slavery, He also sent His Son to save us from our sins.

(Drink/sip.)

Shalom: Peace & Goodbye

(**SLIDE: Shalom!) Romans 5:1 says "We can have PEACE with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

(Closing Prayer.)

Storyteller: I hope you guys enjoyed learning about Passover and all that it symbolizes. The Israelites celebrated the Passover because they remembered that by obeying God and spreading the blood of the lamb over their door, their sons' lives were saved. They celebrated that God kept His promise to them and saved them from a life of slavery.

Jesus is like the lamb at Passover. He was perfect and Holy. He paid for our sins with His blood. All we have to do is believe that He paid this price for us and we can live forever in heaven with Him. Today, we celebrate that miracle. Let's pray and then you are going to go back to your cabins [for the lesson and pick-up or for just pick-up, depending on the schedule].



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