

# SABBATH SCHOOL

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## Preteen Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

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Level 1 • Unit 8 • Week 2

### NEW TESTAMENT PASSOVER SERVICE

#### OBJECTIVE:

To review the New Testament Passover service and explain the Passover symbols.

#### ATTENTION GETTER:

Supplies: Pictures of easily recognized symbols (see end of lesson)  
Unleavened bread (homemade unleavened bread, Ry Krisp, matzo, corn tortilla, etc.)  
Small glass (similar to those used for Passover service)  
Basin (similar to those used for foot washing)  
Towel

Ask: Who can tell me what a symbol is?

Say: A symbol is something that stands for or represents something else.

Do: Hold up the cards of easily recognized symbols and ask the class to identify them.

Say: Once a year, we have a memorial of the death of Jesus Christ. That festival is called Passover. Today, we will learn about the symbols of the Passover service.

#### BIBLE LESSON:

Do: Read John 13:1-17 and Matthew 26:26-30 using a child-friendly version.

Say: There were three things Jesus used as symbols for us to understand and more easily remember the reasons for the Passover service.

First, Jesus washed the disciples' feet.

Ask: What do you think that symbolized?

Say: This reminds us of how important it is to serve other people.

Second, Jesus used unleavened bread.

Ask: What do you think unleavened bread symbolized?

Say: It was a symbol of Jesus' sinless body, which was sacrificed for our sins.

Another symbol Jesus used was wine.

Ask: Do you know what the wine represented?

Say: Wine was used as a symbol of Jesus' blood. Jesus died so that our sins could be forgiven.

Every year the baptized members of God's Church, observe the Passover by washing each other's feet, eating a small piece of unleavened bread and drinking a very small glass of wine.

#### **LESSON APPLICATION:**

Say: Do you think washing someone's feet would be fun? [Often children think the washing of feet ceremony is "yucky."]

The Jewish people of Jesus day were used to the custom of foot washing. It was a courtesy shown to guests in a home. Foot washing was usually done by a servant when the guests entered the house or while they were reclining at table. This was a gesture of great service. [See the *Jewish New Testament Commentary*, p. 194.]

Do: Display a plastic basin that could be used in the foot washing ceremony and explain how it is done.

Show several examples of unleavened bread.

Ask: What is leavening? What does it do? How is unleavened bread different from leavened bread?

Do: Show a small glass that is used for the Passover service and explain about this portion of the service.

**Music:**

Sing "Thank You, Lord" from the United Church of God hymnal, page 20, verse 2.

Thank you, Lord, for your mercy and for grace every day.  
Thank you for your sacrifice, all our sins to wash away.  
Give us daily repentance, and cleanse us from our sin.  
Please restore the joy of salvation, your peace and love within.

**MEMORY VERSE:**

John 13:17 "If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them."

Do: Sit in a circle. Have everyone say the verse several times. Then, go around the circle with each child adding a word until the whole verse is stated. Try this several times.

# *family activity*

## **THE POINT:**

Today we reviewed the New Testament Passover service and explained its symbols.

## **ASK ME...**

- What is unleavened bread?
- What are the symbols used in the Passover service?
- What does the wine represent?
- What does the unleavened bread symbolize?
- What do we learn through foot washing?

## **FAMILY TOGETHER TIME:**

Have fun identifying symbols as you drive to church. Make a game of it and remind your children of the symbols that Jesus gave us.

Have a family discussion about foot washing. Talk about how it teaches us to be humble and serve others. Talk about ways we can serve others.

Discuss why we are reminded every year of the sacrifice of Christ. Be sure to mention how the memorial that He gave us has special meaning.

Instructions: Cut the strip off the bottom of this page. You will see this week's memory verse on the back. After your child has learned the verse, glue the two ends together, forming a link of a paper chain. Each lesson's memory verse will add a new link to their chain of Bible knowledge.

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—cut along dotted line—

(Teacher's note: please write the memory verse on the back of this page at the bottom.)

Here are possible symbols that can be used in the Attention Getter section of this lesson.

