

# Lesson 10:

## The Last Supper

### SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:

Matthew 26; Mark 14; Luke 22

### MEMORY WORK:

Luke 19:10

### PERSONAL APPLICATION:

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

LESSON STARTS HERE

### INTRODUCTION:

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.

### POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. One day 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. [A **man** carrying a water pitcher would have been very noticeable since it was normally the job of **women** to get and carry water.] 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.

### RECOMMENDED ADDITIONAL VISUALS (note disclaimers):

- Betty Lukens’ felt pieces
- ABeka Flash-a-Card Series (DISCLAIMER: use the cards, not the lesson book;)
- Free Bible Images – Saved on flash drive. Can be presented on classroom tv. Script included in lesson file.

### SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS:

#### “Make Me A Servant”

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.

# SUNDAY

## LEARNING CENTERS AND ACTIVITIES:

- Bring a plastic dishpan and towel to show how Jesus washed the apostles' feet.
- Bring grape juice and communion bread to show the students.
- 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.

# WEDNESDAY NIGHT

## POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Review Sunday's lesson. (See Review Questions for example questions.)
2. Spend most of the class time talking about Jesus washing the apostles' feet. He used His last 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.

**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.

## LEARNING CENTERS AND ACTIVITIES:

- 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.]
- 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.

# Review Questions

1. Who did Jesus send to prepare the Passover?
  - a. Peter and John
2. How would they know where to go to prepare the Passover?
  - a. A man carrying water would show them an upper room they could use.
3. Why was it strange that a man was carrying a water pitcher?
  - a. Because it was normally a woman's job to get water
4. What did Jesus do during the Last Supper?
  - a. He got up and washed the disciples' feet.
5. What did this mean?
  - a. That Jesus was a servant
6. What were two things that were a part of the Passover meal that Jesus used to teach a special lesson?
  - a. Unleavened bread and fruit of the vine
7. What did the unleavened bread represent?
  - a. Jesus' body
8. What did the fruit of the vine represent?
  - a. Jesus' blood
9. What does the Lord's Supper represent today?
  - a. A memorial of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection

