

THE LAST PLAGUE AND THE FIRST PASSOVER

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: EXODUS 11-13

Take time to read portions of the story from the NIV Bible. Exodus 12:12-16 is easy to understand. The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.

LESSON IDEAS

THE PASSOVER

Supplies:

- purchase in advance some inexpensive red material and cut it into two pieces (an old red shirt will do fine)
- black cloth or cape

Divide the class into three groups. Pick two children to be the doorway in each group. Have these two children hold up their hands to form a doorway (like in London Bridge).

Over the doorways drape the red cloth. Have a teacher draped with a black cloak or cloth move through the class. Have the teacher pass around the perimeter of each home looking for the doorway and immediately leave when they see the red draped on the door.

Ask the following questions:

- Who can describe what happened in the drama?
- How is this short drama like the Passover in Egypt? (The teacher in black passed the doorways with red on them.)
- Why did God have the Israelites use blood? (The blood is a foreshadowing of Jesus who would shed his blood so that we may be forgiven of our sins against God.)

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THE JUST JUDGE

Supplies:

- Draw a simple silhouette of a person about six inches tall.
- Cut ten silhouettes out of black felt.
- Cut five 1 inch-teardrop shapes out of red felt.

Use the flannel board for this activity. Place all the figures on the flannel board and tell the children that they are all sinners who have sinned against God.

Five of them are Egyptian and five of them are Israelites. Ask the children if they can tell which ones are which. Of course they will not be able to tell. Ask the children the following questions:

- Does anyone know what the punishment for being a sinner is? (The punishment for sin, disobeying God, is death.)

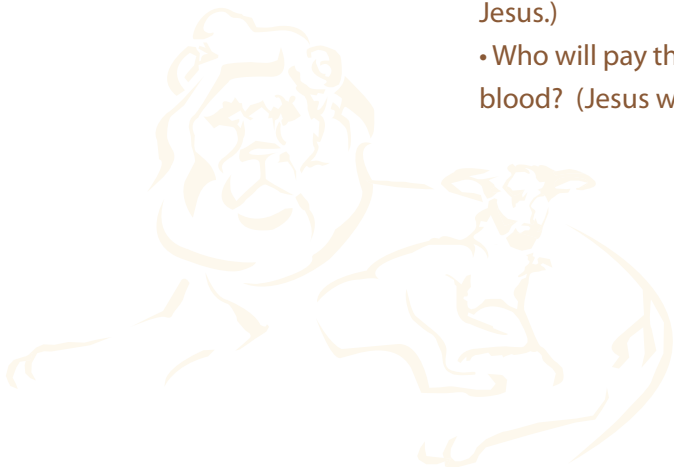
Read to them God's warning to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:17), "When you eat of the forbidden tree you will surely die."

- If all the people on the flannel board are sinners, do they all deserve to die? (Yes, every sinner deserves the punishment of death.)

In your own words, repeat the instructions God gave Moses in Exodus 12:12-13 regarding the blood on the door frame. Take the red teardrops and place them over five of the figures.

Ask the following questions:

- Which of the figures are the Israelites? (The five with the blood are the Israelites.)
- Are these five Israelites with the blood sinners? (Yes)
- Do they deserve death just like the Egyptians? (Yes)
- Why? (They deserve death because they are sinners and death is the just punishment for sin.)
- Why did God not kill them? (The blood was a sign for the Israelites. When God saw the blood He passed over their houses. The people who put the blood on the door were trusting in the salvation God provided, just like we trust in Jesus.)
- Who will pay the penalty for the sin of those people who are covered with the blood? (Jesus will pay the penalty for those who are covered by the blood.)



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Where Is Jesus?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

In the Passover, we have the clearest foreshadowing of Jesus' sacrificial atonement. God promised if the blood of the lamb was painted on the door frame, the Angel of Death would pass over that home and the firstborn son would not be killed. Similarly, Jesus is the lamb who was slain for us. It is His blood which covers over our sin, allowing death to be defeated.

Get rid of the old yeast that you may be a new batch without yeast - as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. Therefore let us keep the Festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with bread without yeast, the bread of sincerity and truth.

(1 Corinthians 5:7-8)

