

## Stories of Celebration

### The Feasts

**God has designed it so that His people would be known for joy and celebration.**

*“Be joyful always... Give thanks in all circumstances.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16 & 18*

*“The Lord said to Moses, ‘Give the following instructions to the people of Israel. These are the Lord’s appointed festivals, which you are to proclaim as official days for holy assembly.’” Leviticus 23:1*

*“You have six days each week for your ordinary work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath day of complete rest, an official day for holy assembly.” Leviticus 23:3*

*“In addition to the Sabbath, these are the Lord’s appointed festivals, the official days for holy assembly that are to be celebrated at their proper times each year.” Leviticus 23:4*

- **Passover**

*“The Lord’s Passover begins at sundown on the fourteenth day of the first month.” Leviticus 23:5*

- **The Feast of Unleavened Bread**

*“On the next day, the fifteenth day of the month, you must begin celebrating the Festival of Unleavened Bread. This festival to the Lord continues for seven days, and during that time the bread you eat must be made without yeast.” Leviticus 23:6*

- **The Feast of First Fruits**

*The Lord said to Moses, “Speak to the Israelites and say to them: ‘When you enter the land I am going to give you and you reap its harvest, bring to the priest a sheaf of the first grain you harvest. He is to wave the sheaf before the Lord so it will be accepted on your behalf; the priest is to wave it on the day after the Sabbath.’” Leviticus 23:9-11*

- **The Feast of Weeks (Pentecost)**

*Leviticus 23:15-22*

- **The Feast of Trumpets**

*Leviticus 23:23-25*

*“the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, the voice of the archangel, and the trumpet call of God.” 1 Thessalonians 4:16*

- **The Feast of Tabernacles**

“On the first day gather branches from magnificent trees—palm fronds, boughs from leafy trees, and willows that grow by the streams. Then celebrate with joy before the Lord your God for seven days.” Leviticus 23: 40

- **The Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)**

*Leviticus 16*

*“Look! It’s the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!” John 1:29*

*“God put the wrong we did on Him who never did anything wrong so we could be put right with God.” 2 Corinthians 5:21 (The Message)*