

THURSDAY NIGHT



READ Matthew 26:17-30

Optional Video

Click here to view a video that will help your children connect with God's Word and bring the story of the Last Supper alive.

Prayer for the meal

Use this time to pray for God's provision of the meal, the friends of your children, your neighbors and family members who are not with you.

Family discussion during the meal

Family discussion: During the meal, take time to discuss what was happening at the Last Supper. To prepare for the discussion, read Exodus 12:1-30. Both the Passover and the Feast of the Unleavened Bread are to remind us of God's protection and provision for His people. This will provide the context for why Jesus was eating this particular meal with His disciples at the same time Jesus explained His provision on the cross.

Discussions ideas during the meal

- God provided safety for the people of Israel. What things has God provided for our family?
- This particular meal was not only a reminder of God's provision, but also the reality of sin. The disciples were shocked that one of their own would turn on Jesus, but their reaction shows that they understand their weakness. Many of them asked, "Is it I, Lord?"

- Take this opportunity to share with those around the table about your own testimony and struggles to follow Christ in obedience. This is an opportunity to share with your family the reality of following Christ through the truth of God's provision in your life and the reality of the temptation of sin we face every day.
- Jesus explained that just as the Passover lamb was the provision for the Israelites, He would be the provision for us. His body would be broken and His blood would be shed for us. Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-30. God uses Paul's letter to direct the church to remember the work of Christ on the cross and to examine themselves. Lead your family into a time of prayer focusing first on the provision of Christ for our sins. Then, lead your family into a time of examination of their relationship with God and with others.

Worship in music

His Mercy is More by Matt Boswell and Boyce College Choir This is a great, new hymn to remind us of the mercy of God. Click here to listen to it or sing along with your family.

GOOD FRIDAY



READ

Mark 15:16-41

Reflection and prayer

This scene is one of the most chaotic scenes in the entire Bible. Jesus was arrested in the garden of Gethsemane, stood before Pilate and Herod in a corrupt trial, and ended up having to go back to Pilate for a verdict when Herod did not want to decide. The mob that wanted Jesus killed had been given a choice to either let Jesus or a convicted criminal named Barabbas walk away freely. They chose Barabbas. Chants of "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!" rang through the angry mob. Jesus was sentenced to death and was then led away into the scene we just read.

Take a few minutes to reflect as a family on what Jesus went through and what that must have been like for Him. After each reflection, take turns praying. First, acknowledge what Jesus endured. Second, express thankfulness for what He was willing to do for us. Finally, give thanks to God for the forgiveness of our sins which made all that Jesus endured necessary. Here's a brief list of some of the heartbreaking, cruel things Jesus endured during his crucifixion:

- The soldiers put a purple robe and a crown of thorns on Jesus and mocked Him by saying, "Hail, the king of the Jews!"
- The soldiers struck Jesus on the head with their rods, spit on Him, and mocked Him again by falling on their knees while pretending to worship Him.

- The soldiers stripped Jesus of His clothes and cast lots for them.
- The soldiers put Jesus on the cross between two criminals.
- People who walked by Jesus hurled insults at Him, mocked Him, and challenged Him to save Himself if He was really the Messiah.

The reality of Jesus

Reread Mark 15:37-39. The centurion who watched all of this take place came to a conclusion about Jesus' identity. He said, "Surely this man was the Son of God!" What a declaration of truth! This man, who was part of the group assigned to carry out the death of Jesus, found eternal life in that same Jesus. This story should help us understand that salvation is available to all who repents and believes that Jesus is truly the Son of God.

Make a list together as a family of people who need to find the hope of eternal life like the centurion at the cross did.

Worship in music

The Wonderful Cross by Chris Tomlin and Matt Redman Click here to listen to it or sing along with your family.

This family worship guide was written in 2020 by Michael Sowers, pastor of Buies Creek First Baptist Church. He has graciously given his permission to share, print and distribute this resource.