

# Small Group Discussion Guide: Salvation Through the Blood of the Lamb

Based on Exodus 12 - The Passover

## Opening Prayer (5 minutes)

Begin by asking God to open hearts and minds to understand the significance of Christ as our Passover Lamb and to apply His truth to our lives.

## Ice Breaker (10 minutes)

**Question:** What family traditions or rituals have been passed down in your family? Why are they significant to you?

## Key Scripture

**Exodus 12:1-13** (The Passover Instructions)

### Supporting Verses:

- 1 Peter 1:18-19
- 1 Corinthians 5:7
- Hebrews 9:14

## Sermon Recap (5 minutes)

The sermon explored the Passover as a profound picture of Christ's sacrifice. Key themes included:

- The Passover lamb as a type of Christ
- The application of blood by faith (using hyssop)
- Deliverance from judgment through the blood

- Preparation for the wilderness journey
- The certainty of salvation bringing joy and peace

## Discussion Questions

### Understanding the Passover (15 minutes)

1. **The Lamb's Requirements:** The Passover lamb had to be without blemish, selected 5 days early, and examined. How do these requirements point to Jesus Christ? What specific parallels stood out to you?
2. **Application of Blood:** Why wasn't it enough for the lamb to simply be sacrificed? What does the application of blood to the doorposts teach us about salvation?
3. **The Hyssop Branch:** The sermon described hyssop as a common herb used for cleansing. How does this represent faith? What does it mean that "faith is our hyssop"?

### Personal Application (20 minutes)

4. **Assurance vs. Uncertainty:** The pastor said, "Redemption with uncertainty has little joy, but redemption with assurance brings peace."
  - Have you ever struggled with assurance of your salvation?
  - What causes us to doubt God's completed work?
  - How does understanding the Passover strengthen your confidence in Christ?
5. **The Foot Washing:** The sermon connected Jesus washing the disciples' feet to ongoing cleansing after salvation.
  - What's the difference between being "completely washed" and having our "feet washed"?
  - What areas of your life need the "foot washing" of confession and cleansing right now?
6. **Eating in Haste:** The Israelites were commanded to eat the Passover meal dressed and ready to leave Egypt immediately.
  - What does it mean to leave "Egypt" in your life?
  - Are there areas where you're hesitating to fully follow God?
  - What would it look like for you to be "girded, sandals on, staff in hand" this week?

### Going Deeper (15 minutes)

7. **The Complete Sacrifice:** The lamb had to be completely consumed —nothing left over, everything roasted with fire. How does this picture Christ's complete work on the cross? What are we tempted to "add" to His finished work?
8. **Tomorrow's Trap:** The pastor mentioned that the devil's favorite word is "mañana" (tomorrow).
  - What spiritual decisions or commitments have you been putting off?
  - What's keeping you from taking that step today?
9. **Wilderness Preparation:** The Israelites were about to enter a wilderness journey where God would reveal who He is and who they are.
  - What "wilderness experiences" have taught you the most about God?
  - How do you typically respond when God takes you on the longer, harder route instead of the shortcut?

## Key Takeaways

Write these on a board or share on screen:

1. **The Blood Must Be Applied** - Christ died for the sins of the world, but salvation requires personal faith and application.
2. **Faith Is Our Hyssop** - We apply Christ's sacrifice through humble, simple faith—not through our own works or worthiness.
3. **Assurance Brings Joy** - When we know we're saved by Christ's work (not our own), we experience true joy and peace.
4. **Be Ready to Follow** - Salvation isn't just rescue from Egypt (sin); it's preparation for a journey of following God through the wilderness.
5. **Today Is the Day** - Don't delay obedience, confession, or commitment. We're not guaranteed tomorrow.

## Practical Applications

Choose 1-2 to focus on as a group:

This Week I Will:

- **Apply the Blood Daily** - Each morning, consciously thank God that Christ's blood covers my sin and ask Him to help me walk in that freedom.
- **Practice Foot Washing** - Use 1 John 1:9 daily to confess specific sins and receive cleansing, rather than doubting my salvation.
- **Identify My Egypt** - Write down one area where I'm still living like a slave to sin or the world, and take one concrete step toward freedom.
- **Share the Passover Story** - Tell someone this week about how Christ is our Passover Lamb and what that means personally to me.
- **Prepare for the Journey** - Evaluate: Am I dressed and ready to follow God, or am I still comfortable in Egypt? Make one change that shows readiness to obey.
- **Stop Saying "Tomorrow"** - Identify one area where I've been procrastinating spiritually and take action this week.

## **Reflection Exercise (10 minutes)**

**Silent Reflection:** Take 3-5 minutes of silence for personal reflection. Consider these questions:

1. Is the blood of Christ applied to my life by faith? Do I truly believe I'm saved?
2. What "old garments" of Egypt do I need to remove?
3. Am I eating the Passover meal "in haste," ready to follow wherever God leads?

**Journaling Prompt:** "Lord, what are You showing me about my freedom in Christ? Where am I still living like a slave?"

## **Communion Reflection (Optional - 10 minutes)**

If your group practices communion together, consider these reflection points:

- **The Bread:** "This is my body broken for you." Jesus was the lamb without blemish, completely consumed for our sin.
- **The Cup:** "This is my blood shed for you." The blood that was sprinkled on the doorposts of our hearts, delivering us from death.
- **The Promise:** "Do this in remembrance of me." We remember not just His death, but our deliverance and our call to follow.

## Prayer Focus (10 minutes)

### Pray together for:

1. **Assurance** - For anyone struggling with doubt about their salvation
2. **Application** - That we would apply Christ's blood by faith daily
3. **Freedom** - To walk out of our personal "Egypt" and follow God wholeheartedly
4. **Obedience** - To stop procrastinating and respond to God's call today
5. **Wilderness Journey** - For faith to trust God through difficult seasons that reveal who He is and who we are

## Closing Challenge

**Pastor's words:** *"What are you doing with the life that's been given back to you? Are you honoring God with that life? Are you walking in the newness of life?"*

This week, live as a freed person. You're not in Egypt anymore. The blood has been applied. The judgment has passed over. Now follow your Deliverer through the wilderness with confidence, joy, and obedience.

## For Next Week

Preview: We'll be studying the Red Sea crossing and what it teaches us about walking by faith through impossible situations.

**Preparation:** Read Exodus 14 and consider: What "Red Seas" are you facing right now where you need to trust God's deliverance?

*"He who comes unto Him doesn't have to be ashamed because His righteousness became our righteousness."*