

PASSOVER SEDER (ORDER) STEWART FAMILY STYLE

1. LEADER DECLARES THE BEGINNING OF OUR CELEBRATION - FREEDOM!

2. **LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES** (Performed by the Lady of the house because it is through a woman that the light of the world was to come. She recites a blessing over the night).

3. **BLESSING (KIDDUSH)** -- First Cup (Father/leader prays and declares freedom – shouts l'chaim) everyone takes first cup and repeats l'chaim which means “to life”)

4. THE WASHING OF HANDS:

5. **BREAD BAG (MATZAH TOSH)**: One bag made of one piece of material containing three compartments. Each compartment contains a piece of matzah (unleavened bread). The middle piece is taken out, broken, wrapped in a white linen cloth then buried. This bread will reappear at the end of the meal.

6. **DECLARE LIFE AGAIN** – l'chaim “it was stripped, it was broken, it was wrapped, it was buried...for life”.

7. **THE TELLING (HA MAGGID)** : TELLING THE PASSOVER STORY this is usually Responsive Reading. The leader declares the beginning of our story. It is the story of our great journey from slavery to freedom, from death to life, from dark to light our great adventure starts with a shout **LET MY PEOPLE GO!**

8. THE FOUR QUESTIONS:

1.) On all other nights we eat bread with leaven. Why on this night do we eat only unleavened bread? 2.) On all other nights we eat all kinds of vegetables. On this night why do we eat only bitter herbs? 3.) On all other nights we do not dip our vegetables twice. Why on this night do we dip twice? 4.) On all other nights we eat sitting. Why on this night do we recline?

9. **GREENS (KARPAS):** This herb is dipped into a bowl of salt water to remind us our tears shed in bondage. We were in bondage because of our sins. As we cried out our deliverer demanded **LET MY PEOPLE GO!**

10. **MOROR (BITTER HERBS):** Yes, we cry out because the taste of sin has caused us to live in bitterness and slavery. We eat the moror to remind us of the sin that has brought us to this place.

10. **SWEET MIXTURE (CHAROSET):** We eat the charoet to remind us of the sweetness that comes from the forgiveness we have in our deliverer. We now eat moror with a heavy layer of charoet on top. This looks like a sandwich called a korech.

10. **THE CUP OF DELIVERANCE:** The leader declares that “yes, because of our sins we were in bondage but our freedom is coming – the miracles of our God are at hand, He will set us free – lift your glass and shout – l’chaim! People around the table begin to ask “how?” “how will He set us free?” What will His miracles be?”

Everyone lifts the second cup and shouts – “l’chiam” Everyone now leans toward the left placing your head on the person beside you.

11. **THE TEN PLAUGES:** Everyone takes the second cup in hand, while dipping your pinky finger into the cup. The leader shouts out the name of each plague that came upon Egypt, everyone repeats what the leader says. At the same time each plague is shouted out a drop of wine will fall into the plate.

BLOOD

BOILS

FROGS

HAIL

LICE

LOCUST

FLIES

DARKNESS

DISEASE

DEATH OF THE FIRSTBORN

THE LEADER DECALRES – OUR GOD, WITH A MIGHTY HAND HAS BROUGHT OUR ENEMY TO ITS KNEES AND HAS GIVEN US, HIS PEOPLE VICTORY – L’CHAIM!

12. **BRING OUT THE LAMB**

During the meal the family talks about God's goodness and how He has delivered them from the situations of life – its testimony time.

13. **AFIKOMEN (I CAME)**: It is at this time that the leader calls for "resurrection". All the children begin to look for the matzah that was hidden at the beginning of the meal. Once someone has found it they bring it to the father who then purchases it for "sliver" (usually a silver dollar is used).

14. **CUP OF REDEMPTION**: This cup along with the Afikmen become what we call "communion" or the "Lord's supper" and we celebrate.

15. **CUP OF PRAISE**: We lift our glass and shout "L'Chaim" and lift our hands and praise God for his goodness to us, for His deliverance for us. How He defeated our enemy by the power of the blood of a lamb! It is customary to recite Psalms 113 – 118 or at least a portion of each one.

We end our evening by declaring with one last lifted glass:

NEXT YEAR IN JERUSALEM