



# BECAUSE HE LIVES

## The Last Supper

March 14- 1 year olds and 2 year olds

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 26; Mark 14; Luke 22; John 13

**KEY PASSAGE:** Philippians 2:8

**BOTTOM LINE:** I remember what Jesus did for me by doing what He says.

**CHRIST CONNECTION:** Jesus showed His disciples with the bread and the drink what He would soon do for us by dying on the cross and that He is the only way to be saved. He promised that when putting our faith in Him, we will be forgiven of our sins and be with Him forever in heaven.

### Context

As the Passover celebration drew near, Jerusalem hummed with excitement. Everyone wondered if Jesus- teacher, miracle-worker, and prophet- would come for Passover. (John 11:56-57) The Passover meal was a permanent statute God intended for every Israelite family to observe each year. (See Ex. 12:1-28; Lev 23:5-8) But it was no secret the religious leaders were determined to kill Jesus. Jesus had warned His disciples what would happen this Passover. (Mark 10:33-34; Luke 18:31)

As they ate the Passover meal, Jesus broke bread and gave it to His disciples. He shared the cup with them too, explaining that the bread and cup represented His body and blood. Jesus established a new covenant.

In the Old Testament, God made a covenant, or promise, with His people. He gave them commandments to follow so they could live in a right relationship with Him. But God's people broke the covenant. They didn't obey God, and they didn't love Him.

What the sacrifice of the Passover lamb could not do- take away sins once and for all- the perfect Lamb of God was going to do. Jesus, the perfectly sinless Son of God, was going to take the punishment for sin upon Himself. (See Heb 10:1-10). As Jesus' disciples prepared for Passover, Jesus prepared to die. By dying on the cross, Jesus brought forgiveness and made the way for people to know and love God again.

Believer's take the Lord's Supper to remember what Jesus did for us in His death and resurrection. We remember God's faithfulness, and we look forward to the day that Jesus will return.

Most of the preschoolers you teach will not be ready to take the Lord's Supper at church. Gently explain that the Lord's Supper, like baptism, is an ordinance of the church and is a celebration for those who have repented of their sin and trusted in Jesus for salvation.

### TAKEAWAYS

- As Jesus and His disciples ate together, He gave some extraordinary meaning to some very elements.
- Jesus used the bread and the cup to show a picture of what He was preparing to do for them and us.
- Jesus told His disciples to never forget what He did.
- Believers take the Lord's Supper to remember what Jesus did for us in His death and resurrection

- We remember what Jesus has done by worshipping Him, obeying Him, and depending upon Him.

**Bottom Line:** I remember what Jesus did for me by doing what He says.

### **Social Activity: Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt**

**What You Need:** Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt Printable (1 per group), plastic eggs, and other objects on the scavenger hunt list, basket

#### **What You Do:**

Before you begin, ask a leader to help you hide the objects for the hunt around the room.

Break kids into teams of 2. As you read the items on the scavenger hunt list, send one team of 2 at a time to find the object hidden in the room. Celebrate with kids as they return with the objects they have found.

"Spring is right here around the corner and spring makes me think of Easter. Our game today really gets me excited about celebrating Easter with you. Our Bible stories are going to help us remember Jesus' last week on earth as we prepare to celebrate Easter together. Let's pray and listen to our story today."

**Small Group Prayer:** "Dear God, thank you for making me, thank you for loving me and thank you for sending your son, Jesus to be my savior. We love you, Amen."

### **Introduce the Story**

"The night before He died, Jesus ate a special meal with His friends. Jesus told His friends about God's plan to rescue people who broke His special promise. Jesus would be taken away. People would put Jesus on a cross even though He did nothing wrong. Jesus' friends were sad, but Jesus gave them good news. "God will make me alive again," Jesus said. Jesus took the bread, broke it into pieces, and gave it to His friends. Then He took the cup, thanked God for it, and gave it to His friends. Jesus said, "I am making a new better promise. When you eat this special meal, remember what I did for you."

### **PLAY BIBLE STORY VIDEO**

Check diapers and listen to a worship song

**Application Activity** Show a Happy and Sad Face

**What You Need:** no supplies needed

#### **What You Do:**

- Guide toddlers to show you their happy face and their sad face.
- Tell the Bible story pausing when the people in the story feel happy or sad. Make the face.

**What You Say** "Jesus told His friends about God's plan. They were confused! Jesus told His friends to remember what He did for them. Jesus died to rescue us.

### **Discussion Questions:**

- **What two items did Jesus share with His disciples as a way to remember His sacrifice?** (the bread and the cup; Luke 22:19-20)
- **What did Jesus say Peter would do three times before morning came?** (deny that he knew Jesus; Luke 22:34)
- **Why is the Lord's Supper so important?** Guide kids to think less about the specific foods used and more about the symbolism of the meal. Remind them that Jesus' sacrifice was a choice. He did not have to allow His enemies to hurt and kill Him. The Lord's Supper is a meaningful way for us to honor Jesus by obeying Him. The Lord's Supper is a beautiful picture of what Jesus did for us in dying on the cross.
- **Who can participate in taking the Lord's Supper?** Guide kids to think about the importance of the bread and the cup. Remind them that only those who have faith in Jesus' death and resurrection have salvation from sin. Those who reject Jesus or who have not yet come to faith do not participate in the Lord's Supper.
- **What other ways do we remember and celebrate Jesus' sacrifice for us?** Direct kids to think about when most churches gather. Discuss the songs we sing. Remind kids that we celebrate Easter in the springtime. Talk about the burial and resurrection symbolism of baptism.