

Seder Guide



Let's Get the Info

This Seder guide is simple so every guest can participate at his or her comfort level. Our recommendation is to encourage lots of participation; that way everyone is invested in the experience and there will be more lively conversation.

Let's Understand Why

The symbols of the Lord's Passover Feast prophesied the Messiah Jesus. Just as Jesus is our Passover lamb, it's exciting to see how the Old Testament symbols have New Testament significance of the Lord's last supper.

Let's Go Shopping

- Fresh parsley
- Grape or cranberry juice (Good substitute: wine)
- Horseradish
- Matzo (Good substitute: crackers of any kind)
- 1 lamb bone (Good substitute: Chicken bone from rotisserie chicken)
- 1 hard-boiled egg
- 6 apples (for charoset)
- 1 cup Walnut pieces (for charoset)
- 1 bottle of Honey (for charoset)
- Cinnamon (for charoset)

Where to Buy

Stater Brothers (be sure to check the international aisle), Vons, Sprouts, Sam's Club (great rotisserie chickens)

Charoset Recipe

Mix all ingredients together in a bowl:

- 6 apples peeled and chopped
- 1 cup of chopped Walnuts
- ½ cup Honey
- 1 tsp. Cinnamon
- ¼ cup grape or cranberry juice

Let's Set the Table

- Use the map on the next page as a guide for setting up your table. Each item on your table symbolizes the Prophesied Messiah, Jesus.

Items on Table

- 2 candles or candlesticks with matches
- 1 bowl of salt water
- 1 bowl of fresh water and a hand towel
- Grape or Cranberry Juice
- Seder Plate complete with:
 - 1 lamb/chicken bone
 - 3 whole squares of Matzo (unleavened bread) and 4 napkins
 - 1 hard-boiled egg
 - Prepared charoset
 - Parsley
 - Horseradish

Elijah's Place Setting: Don't forget to set a plate for Elijah. As you pass around the food, give him the same amount with the exception that only one serving of wine or juice is poured and left next to the place setting for the duration of the ceremony.

Let's Set the Scene

Establish a leader to assign roles for each person at the table. Feel the freedom to break apart these roles for what fits best for your group. The "Family" role is reserved for everyone in unison. If there are no children attending, no problem, assign the role to an adult. TIP: Write the names next to each of their assigned roles below.

Leader:

Mother:

Adult (Up to 5 different people):

Child: (Up to 3 different children):



Charoset

Lamb Bone

Hard Boiled Egg

Horseradish

Parsley

3 Matzo Squares

2 Candles

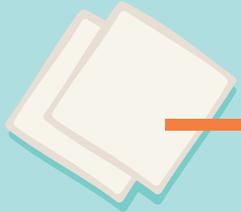
Bowl of Fresh Water & Hand Towel

Wine or Juice

Salt Water

Elijah's Plate

Don't forget to set a plate for Elijah. As you pass around the food, give Elijah the same amount of food with the exception that only one serving of wine or juice is poured and left next to the place setting for the duration of the ceremony.



Let's Begin...

Leader

Our Lord's Passover starts with the lighting of two candles accompanied by a blessing. The mother of the household traditionally lights the candles and blesses the Seder. To prepare ourselves, let us pray silently.

*All pray silently a prayer of preparation.
Mother lights the candles.*

Mother

(as the candles are lit) The Lord says, "Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. The Lord will arise upon you, and His Glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn." (Isaiah 60:1-2). Praised are you, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who has sanctified us by sending to us the light of the world (John 8:12). I pray that the brightness of these lights may inspire us and bring spiritual joy and promise to all of us. "The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace." (Numbers 6:24-26) Amen.

Family

Praised are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who has brought us the hope of eternal life, and sustained us, and enabled us to reach this season of joy.

Each person fills a glass with wine or juice.

Leader

This is the cup of sanctification. The word sanctification means to be set apart for God. Jewish families remember that God performed miraculous deeds to free (set apart) Israel from Egypt. We remember that Christ set us apart from the world as a holy nation to himself (1 Peter 2:9).

Family

Praised are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe, who has chosen us among all peoples and sanctified us with your commandments. With an everlasting love you have given us seasons for rejoicing, and this time of our freedom, in remembrance of Israel's going out from Egypt and Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. Blessed are you, Lord our God.

Everyone drinks the first cup.

The leader dips his hands in a washbasin and wipes his hands on the towel.

Leader

Jewish families remember how the priest washed in the basin before he could come before God on behalf of Israel (Exodus 30:17-21). That ritual pointed to Jesus, who washes away our guilty conscience so that we can draw near to God (Hebrews 10:22). This symbol of cleansing also provides insight concerning Jesus' washing of the disciples' feet at His Passover Seder (John 13:1-17).

The Seder plate is passed around. Everyone grabs 2 pieces of parsley and dips it in the salt water, one sprig at a time.

Leader

The first dip symbolizes the tears shed by the Israelites while they were enslaved; the second dip symbolizes the drowning of the Egyptian army in the Red Sea and the miraculous deliverance that came for the nation of Israel (Exodus 14:13-31). In the New Testament, the apostle Paul compares the crossing of the Red Sea to baptism, which symbolizes our redemption from sin (1 Corinthians 10:1-2).

The matzo is uncovered, and the middle piece—AFIKOMEN—is broken in half. The larger half is hidden, and it will be found by the children and eaten at the end of the Seder. Cover the remaining matzo with a napkin.

The plate of Matzo is lifted for all to see.

Leader

"Ha Lakhma Anya," This is the bread of affliction which Israel ate in the land of Egypt. It is a symbol of the days of slavery and pain, endured by the Jewish people for centuries. Also it is a symbol of the slavery and pain of so many people in the world today without Christ in their lives.

Leader

Will one of the children open the door to welcome the hungry of body and spirit? Let all who hunger for bread and freedom in God come to partake, to celebrate, the bread and freedom of our Lord's Passover celebration.

Child

Why is this night different from all other nights?

Leader Once we were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt, but now we are free. We set aside this night each year to remember the great things God did for us.

Child Why do we eat Matzo tonight?

Leader *(Uncovers Matzo)* When Pharaoh let God's people go, they were forced to leave quickly. They had no time to bake their bread. They couldn't wait for the yeast to rise in the dough, so they prepared the dough without yeast. As they hurried along, the hot Egyptian sun baked the dough into flat, unleavened bread called Matzo. And it reminds us that we have a new life.

Child Why do we eat bitter herbs tonight?

Leader The Bible tells us that God's people were slaves in the land of Egypt, and their lives were made bitter by the oppressors.

Family God's people were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt, but God brought His people from Egypt with a strong hand and a promise of redemption. It is our duty to tell the story of the Exodus of the Israelites and to recall the heroism of those days and God's provision. In every generation, the story of the Exodus has pointed to the Messiah Jesus; this same Passover story has given us the example of courage to face difficulties and suffering while we continue with our commitment to our faith in Christ.

Leader holds up lamb bone while scripture is read.

Adult *Read Exodus 12:7-13*

Leader At the original Passover celebration, a lamb was killed and its blood was spread on the doorposts and lintel of the house to protect the home from the 10th plague, the slaying of the firstborn. God said He would pass over the house when He saw the blood. Each person had to eat of this sacrificial lamb—no one could eat for another person. We understand that we must each make a personal decision to spiritually apply the blood of Jesus to the doorposts of our heart so we never experience sin's judgment (1 John 1:7-8).

Everyone fills the cup a second time.

We will recall The Ten Plagues by dripping drops of juice on our napkins or plates as we mention each of them. While dripping the drops, all recite The 10 Plagues in unison.

Family Blood, Frogs, Vermin, Flies, Cattle disease, Boils, Hail, Locusts, Darkness, Slaying of the first-born. Not only were God's people redeemed by God from slavery in Egypt; but God has made it possible for each person to be a child of God's salvation by the gift and sacrifice of His Son Jesus. Recite John 3:16. For this reason we raise our cup and drink in remembrance of Him. Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe, Creator of the fruit of the vine.

All drink the second cup, the Cup of the Ten Plagues.

Everyone takes a piece of matzo, adding a small portion of horseradish and eats it.

Leader Eating bitter herbs (horseradish) symbolizes the bitterness of slavery the nation of Israel endured in Egypt. We also remember the bitterness of our slavery to sin.

Adult *Read John 8:34*

Each person enjoys a piece of matzo with a little charoset.

Leader This mixture symbolizes the mortar, the cement that holds bricks together, that the Israelites used while enslaved in Egypt. This sweet mixture represents bitter toil because even harsh labor is sweetened by the promise of redemption. We know that it was through Christ's bitter suffering that the sweetness of redemption also came to us.

Adult *Read Hebrews 2:9-10*

Each person takes another piece of charoset and feeds it to the person on his right saying, "Shalom, peace to you."

Leader When Jesus brought sweetness into our lives through His forgiveness, He never intended for us to keep it to ourselves. As we feed each other the charoset, we are showing that we want to pass this sweet message on to others.

Adult Read Matthew 28:19-20

Leader picks up the egg.

Leader The egg is a reminder that because the temple was destroyed in A.D. 70, the Jews were no longer able to offer a sacrifice. The egg is referred to as the Hagigah, the holiday sacrifice that was made during temple times. We are also reminded that Jesus was the final sacrifice that took away sin once and for all.

Adult Read Hebrews 10:12-14

The Afikomen (“ah-fee-koe’-men”) is the piece of matzo that was hidden earlier. It’s time to play a fun game as you send all the kids on a hunt to look for the hidden matzo. Whoever finds the piece gets a token reward—a ransom is paid for the Afikomen. When found, the Afikomen is broken in pieces and distributed to everyone.

Leader Jesus himself used matzo as a picture of His sacrifice when He broke the bread during the Last Supper and said, “This is my body given for you.”

Everyone fills the cup a third time.

Leader This is the cup of redemption. The word redemption suggests the idea of a price being paid to bring someone out of slavery. The sacrificial lamb offered on Passover paid the price to deliver the nation of Israel from the bondage of Egypt. We know that Jesus drank with His disciples and declared, “Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins” (Matthew 26:27-28).

Family Drink the third cup in remembrance of Jesus. The one who was to come, has come and will come again.

All drink the third cup, the Cup of Redemption.

Send one child to the door and peek his or her head out to see if Elijah is coming.

Leader Is Elijah there?

Child No he is not there.

Leader Maybe next year Elijah will come! According to Malachi 4:5-6, the Jewish people know that Elijah will prepare the way for the Messiah. When they ask if Elijah is coming, they are actually proclaiming that they are waiting for the Messiah. We recognize that John the Baptist prepared the way of the Lord more than 2,000 years ago (Luke 1:13-17).

Everyone fills the cup a fourth time.

Leader We will drink the fourth cup, the Cup of Praise and Completion. Jesus refrained from drinking this last cup at His last Passover, but promised that He will drink the fourth Cup of Praise and Completion with us when the Kingdom of God is fulfilled. (Philippians 2:9-11 and Isaiah 45:21-23) Come Lord Jesus.

All drink the fourth cup.

Family Come Again, Lord Jesus! Come Quickly!

**Resources found
here along with a
video tutorial.**



→ foothill.church/seder