

EASTER WITH EGGBERT

Preschool
Week 1

PARENT BIBLE STUDY

Read: Matthew 26:17-30

Let's picture this moment in history like a movie scene. Jesus is reclining around the table with his closest friends. It's warm and inviting. But as the camera zooms close enough to pick up the sound of Jesus' words, we begin to sense the tension. The warmth of the scene is split with the directness of his speech as we hear the words "death," "betrayal," and "blood."

Maybe the disciples were a bit confused, maybe making side glances at each other and asking silent questions with their eyes. Though little of what Jesus said made sense to them in the moment, they'd learned enough in the three years they'd followed him to know his words held weight and authority. If in that moment the disciples were able to zoom out and see the big picture, they would have been able to grasp the significance that we get to look back and see.

Jesus wasn't sharing just any meal with his friends. He was sharing Passover dinner. Passover celebrates a profoundly significant event in the history of the Hebrew people. They were remembering when God saved them from the plague of death and bondage to the Egyptians. On that day years ago, God commanded his people to spread the blood of a lamb across their doorposts, and his Spirit would then "pass over" them and they would be saved. Jesus was sitting at the table as the true and better Passover lamb. The next day, he would be sacrificed in order to save the people he loved. But Jesus' sacrifice would be different, because it would be once and for all, and it would save people from an even more powerful bondage—the slavery to sin. Jesus' sacrifice saves us from spiritual death and frees us forever from sin.

Read the story of Passover in Exodus 12:1-28.

What connections do you see between Passover and Easter?

When we take communion, we are remembering the sacrifice Jesus made that allows us to be reconnected to God. Next time you take communion, remember Jesus' words to his disciples that night: "This is my blood which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins," Matthew 26:28. We are forgiven.