

(leader handout starts on page 4)

The Passover as Exodus:

Read Ex. 12

Connections in Exodus:

1. Remember when fire has been around in Exodus? Who do you think of when you see fire? See Ex. 3:2; 9:23-24; 12:8.

a.

Should I Stay or Should I Go: Feast of Unleavened Bread:

2. Remember Moses' repeated request to Pharaoh. Where were the Israelites supposed to go? See Ex. 5:1; 10:9.

a.

3. Remember Moses' other request to Pharaoh. What was supposed to happen in the wilderness? See Ex. 3:18; 5:3.

a.

4. But what happens in Ex. 12:26-27? What is the significance of this? Consider also Ex. 5:8, 17; 8:8, especially 8:25-26; also 8:27-29; 10:25. Why couldn't the people go offer the sacrifice as Moses requested? What two things did God do in response to this?

a.

5. What is the significance of God's salvation in this way? Consider how God decides the people will feast in Ex. 12:14.

a.

6. Remember how God used his plagues to judge and to save? How do we see God at work in Ex. 12:12-13?

a.

Giddy Up and Go:

1. Have you ever baked bread and waited for it to rise? What did the Israelites do? See Ex. 12:8.

a.

2. What other details do you see regarding how quickly the Israelites left? Consider Ex. 12:11.

a.

Structure of Exodus 12:

Read Ex. 12 again:

1. You'll notice that chapter 12:1-28 discuss the passover, how verses 29-32 discuss the final plague, and how verses 33-42 discuss the exodus and verses 43-51 discuss the Passover once more. What is the significance of the final plague being bracketed within the passover?

a.

2. See Ex. 12:23, 30. While the Egyptian firstborn are killed, what happens because of the passover? See Ex. 12:51.

a.

Passover as Exodus:

1. Why do the Egyptians finally allow the Israelites to go? Who are they referring to when they say “we” in Ex. 12:33? To whom does this imply application and the lack of application? Consider God’s promise in Ex. 4:22-23.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
2. Furthermore, why are the Israelites spared? See Ex. 12:7
 - a.
3. What about us? Consider Heb. 9:22 and 1 John 1:7.
 - a.

Small group (5 mins)

Day of Atonement and Passover:

1. First, do you know what other religious day happened on the tenth of the month? See. Leviticus 23:27.
 - a.
2. Isn’t it strange how the taking of a lamb in the passover also happens on the 10th day? How can you compare and contrast the day of atonement with the passover? Consider these guiding questions to fill in the chart: On Passover, did the Israelites go to the temple? Where were they? What did they sacrifice? Why?
 - 3.

Day of Atonement	Passover
fasting	
Sacrifice of a goat	
In the holy of holies of the temple	
For forgiveness of sins	
Others?	

Christ as Exodus:

4. Who do we call our passover lamb today? See John 1:29.
 - a.
5. How is it that we have passed from death to life? How is Christ like the passover lamb described here? See Ex. 12:5, 7; 1 Peter 1:19. See also Ex. 12:26-27 Ephesians 5:2. One other connection can be found in Ex. 12:46 and John 19:36.
 - a.
 - b.

Take Home:

I urge you to do the following this week:

1. Consider the judgement with which God struck the Egyptians and also his mercy to his people Israel. How did God make a way of salvation for the Israelites?
2. Pray this week in thanksgiving for Jesus being your passover lamb. Because of him, your sins are forgiven and instead of eternal death, you will live with him!

Closing Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, we praise you for revealing yourself to the Israelites and for making yourself known to them by delivering them from the Egyptians. We also praise you for delivering us from our sin and the death we deserve. Thank you for sending Jesus. We ask that you would strengthen us this week with this comfort: Jesus died in our place. In Jesus' name, amen.

25 mins? (without discussion) 49 mins (with discussion)

The Passover as Exodus:

Say: “Can a couple people read Exodus 12?” (10 mins)

Read Ex. 12

Say: “Now we’ll break into groups and discuss some big picture ideas.” (8 mins)

Connections in Exodus:

1. Remember when fire has been around in Exodus? Who do you think of when you see fire?¹ See Ex. 3:2; 9:23-24; 12:8.
 - a. Should I Stay or Should I Go: Feast of Unleavened Bread:²
2. Remember Moses' repeated request to Pharaoh. Where were the Israelites supposed to go? See Ex. 5:1;10:9.³
 - a.
3. Remember Moses' other request to Pharaoh. What was supposed to happen in the wilderness? See Ex. 3:18; 5:3.⁴
 - a.
4. But what happens in Ex. 12:26-27?⁵ What is the significance of this?⁶ Consider also Ex. 5:8, 17; 8:8, especially 8:25-26; also 8:27-29; 10:25. Why couldn't the people go offer the sacrifice as Moses requested? What two things did God do in response to this?⁷
 - a.
5. What is the significance of God's salvation in this way?⁸ Consider how God decides the people will feast in Ex. 12:14.
 - a.
6. Remember how God used his plagues to judge and to save? How do we see God at work in Ex. 12:12-13?⁹
 - a.

Say: “Any questions? Any insights to share?”

“This was a time to remember all that God had done. See Ex. 12:14. Not only this, but the people were to remember who their God was as he had revealed himself through these mighty acts.”

¹ Yahweh

² *Stay (God brings sacrifice to Egypt) or Go (Israelites to go)*

³ *Feast in the wilderness*

⁴ The people were to *sacrifice to God*

⁵ In the Passover meal we find the sacrifice happening *in Egypt* itself.

⁶ Again, God brings the sacrifice to his people... not the other way around.

⁷ God not only frees the Israelites from Egypt. He also brings the sacrifice to the people. Even though it would be abominable in the Egyptians' eyes to do this in their land, God brings the sacrifice to them.

⁸ Instead of the people going out to the wilderness to have a feast to God, God instead comes to them in the place of their captivity to feast. *Feast in Egypt (place of death) = to be remembered*. It is a feast to be remembered.

⁹ His final plague acts in judgement to those without a sacrifice and salvation to those with a sacrifice. *Salvation = sacrifice. Judgement = sacrifice (crossed out)*

Say: “Now we’ll consider the ‘giddy up and go’ section.” (3 mins)Giddy Up and Go:

1. Have you ever baked bread and waited for it to rise? What did the Israelites do? See Ex. 12:8.¹⁰
 - a.
2. What other details do you see regarding how quickly the Israelites left? Consider Ex. 12:11.¹¹
 - a.

Structure of Exodus 12:**Say: “Can a couple people read Exodus 12 again.” This time, I want you to consider the structure and especially the groups of things happening.” (10 mins)**Read Ex. 12 again:**Say: “Now we’ll consider the structure in small groups.” (5 mins)**

1. You’ll notice that chapter 12:1-28 discuss the passover, how verses 29-32 discuss the final plague, and how verses 33-42 discuss the exodus and verses 43-51 discuss the Passover once more. What is the significance of the final plague being bracketed within the passover?¹²
 - a.
2. See Ex. 12:23, 30. While the Egyptian firstborn are killed, what happens because of the passover? See Ex. 12:51.¹³
 - a.

Group Discussion: (2 mins)**Small Group (4 mins)**Passover as Exodus:

1. Why do the Egyptians finally allow the Israelites to go?¹⁴ Who are they referring to when they say “we” in Ex. 12:33? To whom does this imply application and the lack of application?¹⁵ Consider God’s promise in Ex. 4:22-23.¹⁶
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
2. Furthermore, why are the Israelites spared? See Ex. 12:7¹⁷
 - a.

¹⁰ They removed the yeast from the dough so they could make the bread faster. Notice: *fire= God’s presence with them.*

¹¹ “Men at this time usually wore an ankle-length, flowing garment. When they needed greater mobility, they pulled the excess length of the garment toward their waists and tightened it with a sash.”

¹² It shows how the Israelites are literally passed over. While the angel of the LORD struck down the Egyptians and any who didn’t listen to his word, the LORD passed over the Israelites. Israel passed over in place of death

¹³ God brings his people out of Egypt! Out of the place of death.

¹⁴ God did as he said he would. He killed all the first borns of the Egyptians, but his own firstborns, namely Israel, he saved

¹⁵ The Egyptians are concerned because so many of *their* firstborns died... but none of the Israelites who listened to God’s Word died.

¹⁶ Here God shows salvation to his firstborn son and death to the firstborn sons of the Egyptians.

¹⁷ Israel escapes judgement via vicarious sacrifice. Just as the blood of Christ atones us.

3. What about us? Consider Heb. 9:22 and 1 John 1:7.

a.

Small group (5 mins)

Day of Atonement and Passover:

1. First, do you know what other religious day happened on the tenth of the month? See. Leviticus 23:27.¹⁸

a.

2. Isn't it strange how the taking of a lamb in the passover also happens on the 10th day?¹⁹ How can you compare and contrast the day of atonement with the passover? Consider these guiding questions to fill in the chart: On Passover, did the Israelites go to the temple? Where were they? What did they sacrifice? Why?

3.

Day of Atonement	Passover
fasting	feasting
Sacrifice of a goat	Sacrifice of a lamb
In the holy of holies of the temple	In Egypt, the place of death
For forgiveness of sins	For protection from death

Christ as Exodus:

4. Who do we call our passover lamb today? See John 1:29.

a.

5. How is it that we have passed from death to life? How is Christ like the passover lamb described here? See Ex. 12:5, 7; 1 Peter 1:19.²⁰ See also Ex. 12:26-27 Ephesians 5:2.²¹ One other connection can be found in Ex. 12:46 and John 19:36.²²

a.

b.

Take Home: (1 min)

I urge you to do the following this week:

¹⁸ Day of atonement!

¹⁹ Recall that the Day of Atonement was the day the Israelites *fasted* and received forgiveness of their sins through sacrifice and the sending of a goat out into the wilderness.

²⁰ Two things here. Christ is a lamb *without defect*... but also, just as the lamb's blood was put on the door frames, and when God saw it, the destroyer passed over the house, so too, when *God sees Christ's blood*, we are saved from the destruction we have earned from our sins. Instead of destruction, however, we are redeemed and forgiven.

²¹ Christ is a lamb without blemish and a *sacrifice* to God.

²² Neither Jesus nor the passover lamb was to have its bones broken. Thus, Jesus is stabbed with a spear in the side.

1. Consider the judgement with which God struck the Egyptians and also his mercy to his people Israel. How did God make a way of salvation for the Israelites?
2. Pray this week in thanksgiving for Jesus being your passover lamb. Because of him, your sins are forgiven and instead of eternal death, you will live with him!

Closing Prayer: **(1 min)**

Dear Heavenly Father, we praise you for revealing yourself to the Israelites and for making yourself known to them by delivering them from the Egyptians. We also praise you for delivering us from our sin and the death we deserve. Thank you for sending Jesus. We ask that you would strengthen us this week with this comfort: Jesus died in our place. In Jesus' name, amen.