

## Lesson 1

# The Passover

Exodus  
11:1-12, 42

Memory Verse  
Behold, God [is] my  
salvation; I will trust,  
and not be afraid  
(Isaiah 12:2).

Teachers Objective  
At the end of the session,  
the students should  
be able to:

1. Define in their own words how God protected the Israelites
2. Locate Egypt on a map
3. Describe some of the unique instructions God gave to Moses who in turn gave the instructions to the Israelites
4. Express in their own way what took place. How are they are to trust God and not be afraid.

Materials Needed  
See Teaching Activities  
for specific activities

## Teacher s Bible Study

The Passover lamb was slaughtered on the 14th of Nisan. It was eaten with unleavened bread and bitter herbs on into the evening. That night the death angel passed, spared the Israelites who had put the blood of the lamb on the doorpost, and slaughtered the first-born of Egypt. This began a period of seven days of eating unleavened bread.

Joshua 5:10 11 describes the first Passover after Israel crossed the Jordan. Chapter 6, which tells of the destruction of Jericho, may envision the seven-day siege as the seven days of Unleavened Bread; but this is nowhere explicitly stated.

Read Numbers 9:1 5. This is a record of the first-anniversary Passover that the Israelites kept in the wilderness the second year after they had left Egypt.

Read Joshua 5:7 11. The Israelites are now in the Promised Land, and the Lord commanded Joshua to circumcise all the males that were born in the wilderness. Afterwards, the children of Israel kept the Passover. God once again reminded the people of how He delivered them from the bondage of slavery in Egypt.

There was a period of approximately two centuries in which worship at the Jerusalem Temple by the northern tribes evidently fell into oblivion. At various points, the books of Kings mention that individual kings over the northern kingdom continued to follow the sin of Jeroboam the son of Nebat (e.g., I Kings 15:34; 16:26; 22:52; II Kings 3:3, 10:31).

The next mention of a major festival observance is under Hezekiah, shortly before the fall of the northern kingdom (II Chronicles 29 31). But evidently this revival was short lived, undoubtedly because of the acts of Manasseh, his son. It was not until the time of Josiah that the Temple was repaired and the services began again. At that time a copy of the Law was found and its instructions followed. This shows the depths to which worship of God had degenerated (II Kings 22 23). A Passover was observed according to the law. No such Passover had been kept since the days of the judges who judged Israel, or during all the days of the kings of Israel or of the kings of Judah (II Kings 23:22).

Make copies of Activity Page for each age group, enough for all your students.

For lamb 1: scissors, white and black construction paper, glue, cotton balls, and black crayons or markers.

For lamb 2: heavy paper (cardboard), white yarn, black felt-tip

marker, black felt or black construction paper, bell and ribbon (optional), wooden clothes pins, and polyester stuffing (optional).

## Presenting the Bible Story

Be very familiar with the Bible story. As stated before, only you know the ability of your students. Your older students may be able to read the story, while your younger students would like you to tell them the story. Visuals, if you have them, are always helpful. Remember, these are broad suggestions for you to use. Below are some of the important points to bring out while telling the story. Emphasize the difficulties of slavery, and how God cares for all people no matter where they live.

Exodus 11:1-8

The tenth and final plague that God brings upon Pharaoh and Egypt is the death of all the firstborn in Egypt. God wanted to free the Israelites

Exodus 12:1-13  
Specific instructions were given by God to Moses and Aaron. They gave these instructions to the children of Israel.

1. Each household was to take a perfect lamb on the tenth day of the month. If their family was small, they were to join with another family for the meal. Jesus was without spot or blemish; He was perfect. (Hebrews 9:14, offered himself without spot to God.).

2. The lamb was to be male, less than a year old.

3. The lamb was to be killed on the afternoon of the 14th.

4. The blood of the lamb was to be put on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the house.

5. The lamb was to be roasted with bitter herbs which was a symbol of the bitterness of their bondage.

6. It was to be eaten with unleavened bread which was a symbol of the haste of their deliverance from Egypt.

7. Not a bone of the lamb was to be broken (Exodus 12:46).

8. The entire lamb was to be eaten by morning; if it was not, they were to burn what was left.

9. They were to eat the lamb with their loins girded, shoes

Exodus 12:21-23, 24, 28

from their bondage of slavery in Egypt. God wants us to be free from our bondage of sin. Sin is slavery. When you disobey your parents, you do not please God. You are showing God that you are in slavery to sin. Read Isaiah 59:2. Reinforce the memory verse (Isaiah 12:2).

Exodus 12:29, 30

Moses gives God's instructions to the elders of Israel. They were to follow these instructions carefully so that they would be kept safe from the coming of the tenth plague. God did keep them safe as we have read.

Exodus 12:31-42

God has a plan of protection for all mankind. The Israelites must have heard the cries of anguish as the firstborn among the Egyptians died. The Israelites knew how to be safe. They needed to follow God's instructions. God's son, Jesus Christ, paid the ultimate price. Jesus Christ took the punishment. We no longer have to be in bondage to sin. Why? Because Jesus gave His blood for us. Read I John 1:7. The Egyptians were more than happy to set the Israelites free. Pharaoh at last commanded that the Israelites be set free.

The Israelites left Egypt with a great deal of wealth. This was an

## Art and Activities

amazing deliverance God performed from the clutches of bondage. God gave instructions that this Passover was to be remembered every year. It is important that we remember this Old Testament Passover story because it parallels how our Savior, Jesus Christ, is our Passover lamb.

## Teaching Activities

### Young Children

With white construction paper, make copies of lamb number one on the following page. Have your students cut the lamb out. You will need glue and cotton balls. Glue the cotton balls to the lamb. Discuss the story with the children while they work on their project.

Have your students draw a picture of an Israelite family having the Passover meal. Ask them to tell the story to you.

### Older Children

Using cardboard or other heavy paper, make copies of lamb number two. If your students are able, have them cut the cardboard lamb out. If they are not, cut the pattern out yourself. It is advised to have this done before class. Each student will need two clothespins, and enough white yarn to wrap around the body of the cardboard lamb. Color half the clothespins black. Attach the clothespins (2) to the body of the lamb. Color the head of the lamb black. Starting in the middle of the cardboard lamb, wrap the white yarn around and around the cardboard. Cut two ears and a tail out of black construction paper. Attach them to the lamb with glue.

Explore with  
your students  
the following  
questions:

Encourage your  
students to ask  
these questions  
of their family  
on the Night to  
be Much Observed.

Always close your  
class with prayer

You may want to answer the questions on the Activity Page as a group, giving each student an opportunity to look up the scripture and answer the questions. This will parallel the Explore the Subject part of the class.

## Explore the Subject

1. Why is the Night to be Much Observed different from other nights?

Read Exodus 12:1 8

2. Why were bitter herbs to be eaten with this meal?

Read Exodus 12:8 14

3. How were the Israelites to eat the Passover?

Read Exodus 12:11 17

4. Why were they to eat so fast?

Read Exodus 12:21 42

5. Have we ever been in slavery?

Romans 6:12 23

6. Why don't we kill a lamb like the Israelites did?

Read I Corinthians 5:7 8

7. Did Jesus preach about freedom?

Read Luke 4:16 21

8. Are there many people who are slaves?

Read Romans 8:14 23

9. How can people become free?

Read John 8:25 36

## **Activity**

### **A Night to Be Observed**

Be ready for the “Night to be Much Observed” with the answers to the questions below.

1. Why is this night different from other nights? Exodus 12:1–8

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2. Why were bitter herbs eaten with this meal? Exodus 1:8–14

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3. How were the Israelites to eat the Passover? Exodus 12:11–17

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4. Why were they to eat so fast? Exodus 12:21–42

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5. Were we or are we now in slavery? Romans 6:12–23

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6. Why don't we kill a lamb today like the Israelites did? I Corinthians 5:7–8

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7. Did Jesus preach about freedom? Luke 4:16–21

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8. Are there many people who are slaves today? Romans 8:14–23

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9. How can people become free? John 8:25–36

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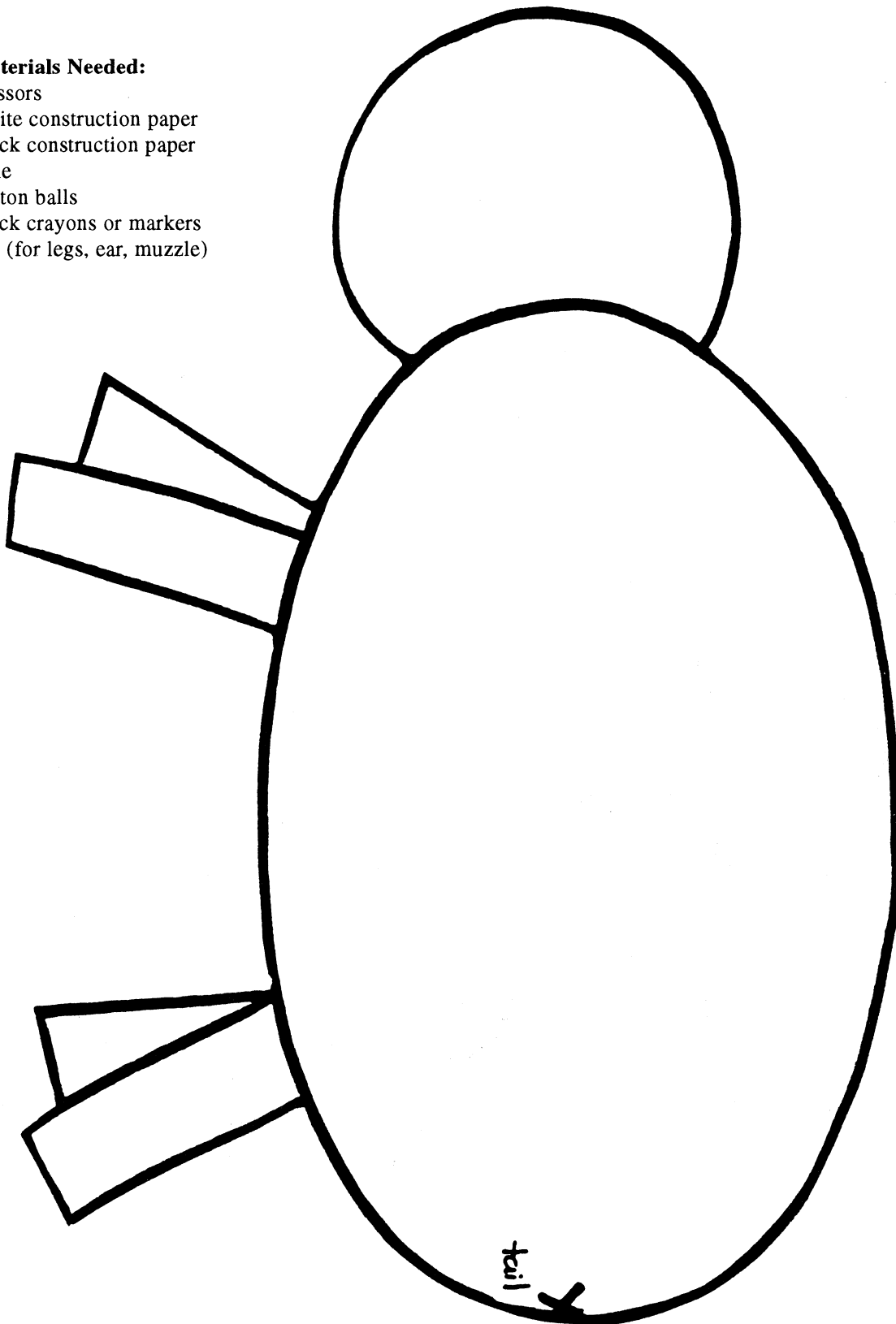
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## Activity

### Passover Lamb

**Materials Needed:**

Scissors  
White construction paper  
Black construction paper  
Glue  
Cotton balls  
Black crayons or markers  
(for legs, ear, muzzle)



## Activity

### Passover Lamb

#### Lamb 2

**Materials Needed:**

Heavy paper (cardboard, such as from a gift box)  
White yarn  
Black felt tip permanent marker  
Black felt or black construction paper for ears and tail  
Ribbon and bell optional  
Wooden clothespins  
Polyester stuffing (optional—for a fluffy appearance)

