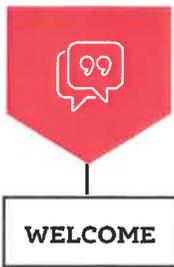


Gr. 1-3 Lesson Template

Where	Who and What	What you Need
Classroom	Teacher takes attendance Give students a sticker	Paper on table, check off who is here, put onto the clipboard
	Option 1: Passover: Talk about what the passover meal was and how it related back to when the Israelites left Egypt. Worksheet - Red door blood. Jesus is like the lamb now and his blood was shed to free us.	Paper
Large Group	Large Group Time: Leader is Bryan. He'll get you when ready.	
Classroom	Discussion Questions on page 74 1. Why do we not obey God perfectly? 2. How does Jesus' sacrifice take away our sin? 3. How are our sinful hearts changed to want to obey God?	See leaders guide if you want more answers
Classroom:	Other side of the worksheet	Worksheet
	Hand out papers for kids to give to their parents: Children and Communion	



WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

SAY *“What is your favorite food to eat at dinnertime? Do you like to eat big meals with other people? Why or why not?”*

1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete “What’s the Meal?” on the activity page.

SAY *“Our connect the dot picture revealed that Jesus and His disciples ate bread and drank from a cup during Passover. Today, we will learn why these two elements are important.”*

2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: PASS OVER



Lead kids to form a circle and sit down. Ask kids to close their eyes and listen carefully to your instructions. Tell kids that you will give a command such as “hold your arms up high” or “give a thumbs up” or “make a fist.” Tell kids that if they follow your directions closely you will “pass over” them and mark them safe with a sticky note. Play a few rounds, then invite kids to give the commands as time allows.

SAY *“Last week, we were reminded that Jesus and His disciples were getting ready to celebrate the Passover. Who remembers why the Jewish people celebrated Passover? [Allow responses.] Passover was a celebration to remember how God saved the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. God used the blood of a lamb on the doorposts as a sign to save those who trusted in Him. The Israelites faith in God marked them ‘safe.’ Today, we will learn that Jesus and His disciples celebrated the Passover together. Let’s get ready to listen closely to the important words Jesus shared with His disciples.”*

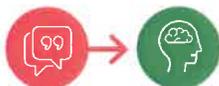
OPTION 2: THE LORD’S SUPPER DEMO

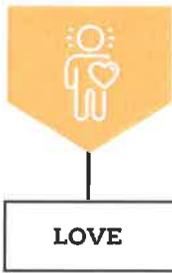
Before the session, ask your church leaders if you may borrow a communion plate and the elements of the Lord’s Supper. Place the plate with the elements on a table for the kids to see. Explain how the elements are symbols the church uses to remind us of Jesus’ death and resurrection. Hold up the bread and tell kids that it is a symbol of Jesus’ body. Hold up the grape juice and tell kids it is a symbol of Jesus’ blood shed on the cross. Tell kids that the Lord’s Supper is a practice in the church for anyone who has trusted in Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

Pass the plate with the elements around to the kids. Tell the kids to not eat or drink the elements. Emphasize how the Lord’s Supper, much like Passover, is a way for us to remember how Jesus’ death on the cross has saved us from sin.

SAY *“Today, we will learn how Jesus shared a last meal with His disciples. In our Bible story, Jesus told His disciples to practice the Lord’s Supper as a way to remember Him.”*

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**





THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

LOVE God by Applying the Story

1 REVIEW & BIBLE SKILLS (5 minutes)

Distribute Bibles. Guide kids to open their Bibles to Mark. Remind kids that the New Testament book of Mark was written after Jesus' time on earth but that the Old Testament and the New Testament are part of the same story. Tell kids that the new covenant Jesus began was hinted at in the Old Testament by the prophets Moses, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel.

Choose a volunteer to read aloud Mark 14:18 or ask the kids to follow along as you read the verse aloud. Consider pointing out the location of Jerusalem (H5) on the New Testament Israel Map.

SAY Right before Jesus taught the disciples about the new covenant, He told the disciples that one of them would betray Him. We know that it was Judas who betrayed Jesus for money. Later, we will learn that even Peter lied about knowing Jesus. Like Judas and Peter, we are all sinners. We have disobeyed God and do not love Him perfectly.

But Jesus came to die for sinners. He lived a perfect life in our place and sacrificed His life on the cross. The way of the new covenant reminds us that it is only through Jesus that we can be forgiven of our sins.

2 GROUP DISCUSSION (10 minutes)

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss.

SAY Why do we not obey God perfectly?

Remind kids that we are all sinners and that we want to please ourselves rather than obey God. Tell kids that our biggest issue is that we have a heart problem that we cannot fix on our own. Tell kids that no matter how hard we try or how much good we do, we do not have the power to change our sinful hearts.

SAY How does Jesus' sacrifice take away our sin?

Discuss how Jesus never sinned and that He lived perfectly for us. Explain that His sacrifice on the cross takes the place of our punishment for sin. Tell kids that Jesus' perfect righteousness is given to us when we trust in Him and believe that He died for our sins.

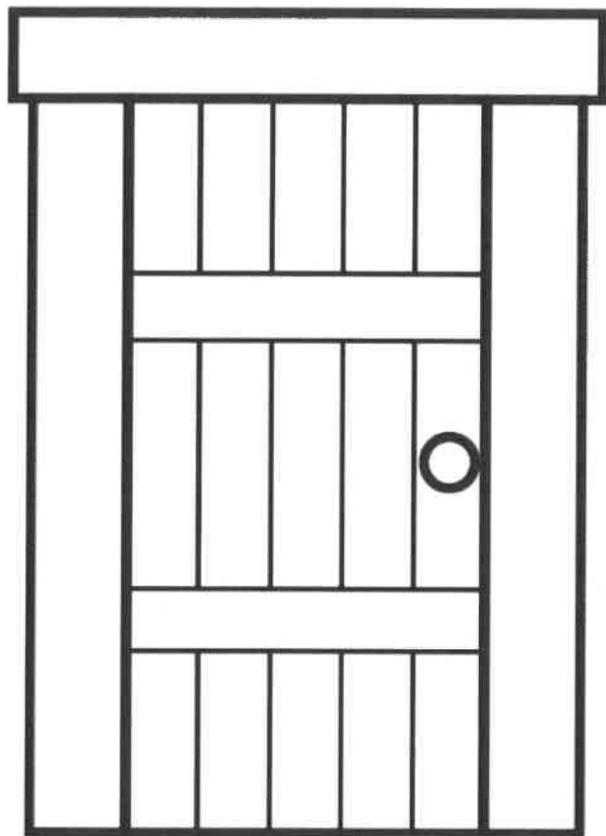
SAY How are our sinful hearts changed to want to obey God?

Explain that when we trust in Jesus, our sinful hearts are changed to want to live for God and obey Him. Tell kids that the power of God changes our hearts and that He gives us the Holy Spirit who helps us follow Him. Allow time for kids to ask questions about salvation. Be prepared to share *The Gospel: God's Plan for Us*.

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**



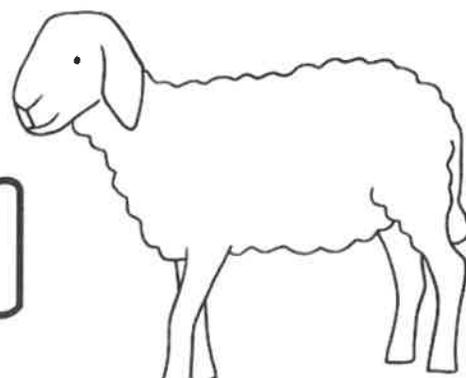
A lamb died to set the Israelites free.
Draw the blood round the door.



Jesus died to set us free.
Colour the letters from the word *J e s u s*

k	x	J	n	m
l	o	e	z	b
J	e	s	u	s
w	a	u	f	o
h	b	s	z	i
l	a	J	c	w
m	d	e	k	v

Christ our
Passover lamb
has been
sacrificed



On Thursday, Jesus had a last meal with His disciples. What happened there?

Use the code to find out more.

A =	☛	E =	▼	I =	+	M =	◆	Q =	☆	U =	☞	Y =	⇒
B =	▷	F =	I	J =	☞	N =	★	R =	☞	V =	♣	Z =	☆
C =	✱	G =	▲	K =	○	O =	◆	S =	✂	W =	♥		
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CHILDREN AND COMMUNION

While each child's developmental path is unique, there are common patterns in how children's understanding of the Lord's Supper typically unfolds. As you explore these patterns, refer also to *Spiritual Characteristics of Children and Teens* (tinyurl.com/FFMspirchar).

Preschoolers experience communion as part of their worship experience, mimicking their parents' faith—just as they do when they fold their hands in prayer, raise their hands in praise, or turn the pages of a Bible storybook.

5- and 6-year olds are able to understand that the bread and the wine or juice remind us of Jesus' body and blood. They understand that the celebration of communion reminds us that Jesus died on a cross and forgives our sins.

7- and 8-year olds experience communion as a reminder of Jesus' death and resurrection and are able to understand that the celebration of communion is something that God's family does together as a way of remembering Jesus' gift of forgiveness.

9- and 10-year olds continue to deepen their understanding that the bread and the wine or juice are reminders of Jesus' body and blood given through his death on the cross. They're beginning to understand metaphors and symbols and can be more thoughtful in their experience of the sacrament.

Young teens are able to use metaphors and understand symbolism. Cognitively, many young teens have most of the same tools adults do to understand the richness of the sacrament. Most do not yet have the life experiences that adults do to help put this sacrament in the context of their lives or of the bigger salvation story.

Children and teens with intellectual disabilities may have varying levels of understanding of the meaning of the Lord's Supper, but should always be warmly welcomed to participate. This excerpt from *Expressing Faith in Jesus: Church Membership for People with Intellectual Disabilities* (FaithAliveResources.org) is helpful:

“Neither Scripture nor our own experience tells us that God distributes the gifts of salvation only to people who have a certain level of intelligence. The kind of knowing that faith requires is an intimate, trusting, person-to-person sort of knowing not confined by the speed or breadth of one's intelligence. Our friends with intellectual disabilities often show a high level of trust, exhibiting the simple faith that Jesus acknowledged when he blessed the children whom the disciples had intended to turn away. . . . Their faith is nurtured by relationships that reflect the love of Jesus.”

