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REMEMBER & CELEBRATE

Feast of Unleavened Bread: Remembering and Celebrating God as Redeemer

Inspire

Shares personal stories from fellow ministry leaders about how God has worked in their lives

Some tunes, once they get into your head, are nearly impossible to get out. If you think about the words “amazing grace,” does the tune pop into your head? There’s great theology in that song. Just as children learn tunes to remember their ABCs, we can learn refrains to teach us and help us remember our God and His redeeming work for us. When we’re sick or afraid or discouraged, lyrics and music help us recognize God’s presence. We can switch our focus from what we’re physically feeling to the character and person of our God who comforts and heals.

In contrasting times of sickness or sadness with God’s soothing ways, we can’t help but celebrate His faithfulness and tender care for us. He has given so many beautiful songs to the faithful artists who seek Him. Songs of praise and truth remind our hearts that regardless of the circumstances we face, God is unchanging. We can remember Him, celebrate the truth of His nature, and praise Him still.

Cristi Thomas
Tru Team

Equip

Offers perspective and context to the lesson's Bible passage

Feast of Unleavened Bread: A Feast Celebrating God as Redeemer

The Feast of Unleavened Bread celebrates God’s miraculous deliverance of the Israelites from the bondage of Egypt and, ultimately, His deliverance of our bondage to sin. Beginning with the day after Passover, the Israelites were to take seven days to eat bread without yeast and to cease working on the first and seventh days. The unleavened bread represented their quick departure from Egypt, not having time for the yeast to

make their bread rise. In the New Testament, Jesus speaks of yeast (or leaven) symbolically, as sin. Jesus broke unleavened bread with His disciples and said, “This is My body.” Jesus was without sin as His body was “broken” during His crucifixion.

Support

Provides reflection and assessment through encouragement, prayer, and time in God's Word

God commanded the Israelites to celebrate the Feast of Unleavened Bread as a remembrance for how He redeemed them. God delivered His people from slavery and chose them to be His very own people. Spend some time meditating on Isaiah 41:1–10 or 43:1–13. How does God, your Redeemer, encourage you through His Scripture today? He paid a great price to deliver you from the slavery of sin and redeem you as His very own. Reflect on Christ's saving work in your life.

*Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wand'ring from the face of God;
He, to save my soul from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.*

*Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
Prone to leave the God I love;
Take my heart, oh, take and seal it*

With thy Spirit from above.

*Rescued thus from sin and anger,
Purchased by the Savior's blood,
May I walk on earth a stranger,
As a son and heir of God.*

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing,” Robert Robinson.

SMALL GROUP SECTION

EXPLORE// 10 min.

Small Group Leaders

Children engage in fun, creative activities designed to pique their curiosity about the day's biblical feast or festival.

Take and Go

In celebrating the Feast of Unleavened Bread, we remember the haste in which the Israelites had to pack up and leave Egypt. The children will play a game of speed and cooperation as they race to pack for a journey.

SUPPLIES

- Balls (2, medium-sized)
- Masking tape
- Backpacks (2)
- Small items (10 items per team, examples: socks, books, toys, stuffed animals, plastic food containers etc.)

SET UP

Use the masking tape to create a long starting line, about 10 feet. Place the backpacks several feet apart at the



starting line. Place one ball beside each backpack. About four to five feet from each backpack, use masking tape to mark an “x” on the floor. Then, about four to five feet beyond the x’s, spread out the small items.

RELATE

Today we celebrate the Feast of Unleavened Bread to remember that God redeemed His people and delivered them from Egypt. God is Redeemer. As the Israelites packed to leave, God turned the hearts of the Egyptians to look favorably on the Israelites. God directed the Israelites to ask for and take whatever they wanted from the Egyptians as they packed for their journey. We are going to play a game in which we race to pack up.

Put the children into two teams. Have each team line up behind a backpack. Have one player from each team stand on the “x” facing his team. This child is the catcher. The first child from each team will pick up the ball near the backpack and toss it to the catcher. If the ball is caught, the catcher may run to pick up an item and then run it back to her team, put the item into the backpack, and move to the back of the line. The first child on the line then becomes the new catcher, and the process repeats.

If the ball is not caught by the catcher, the thrower moves to the back of the line, and the next person in line tosses the ball to the catcher. The goal for each team is to fill their backpack with all the random items before the other team.

LARGE GROUP

SECTION

REMEMBER// 30 min.

Host/Worship Leader/Storyteller

Children pause and look back at what they’ve discovered about God during the past several weeks in The Big God Story.

Traditions and Remember Verse

SUPPLIES

- Mementos for your church Traditions (rocks, marbles, gum balls, etc.)

RELATE

After everyone gathers as a large group, open with Traditions. During Traditions, you’re helping the children work toward a common goal and giving them mementos to celebrate accomplishments such as memorizing the Remember Verse, inviting friends to church, or bringing their Bibles. Once children receive their mementos, have them put the objects in the designated container. Once kids fill the container, hold a celebration.

Recall the Remember Verse from the previous weeks.

Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. Psalm 90:2



Remember and Play

SUPPLIES

- Images: ZONK! Questions, ZONK! Answers (see Resources)

Note: See the How It Works document for more information.

ZONK!

Questions and Answers

1) What did Jacob dream about while he slept alone in the desert?

- a. Angels walking up and down stairs
- b. That he was flying
- c. That he could breathe underwater
- d. That he was hairy like his brother

ANSWER: A. In his dream, Jacob saw a stairway going up to heaven. Angels were walking up and down the stairs.

2) True or False: Jacob and Esau never spoke again after Jacob stole Esau's blessing.

ANSWER: False. Even though they didn't talk for many years, God drastically changed Jacob's life, and the two brothers happily reunited.

3) What does *redeem* mean?

- a. Fly through the air
- b. Eat a sandwich
- c. Give a hug
- d. Buy back

ANSWER: D. *Redeem* means "buy back." Jesus redeemed us by paying the debt for our sins when He died on the cross and rose again. God redeemed Joseph's life by turning bad situations into something good.

4) What did Joseph's brothers do to him instead of killing him?

- a. Threw him into a water well
- b. Tore up his coat
- c. Sold him into slavery
- d. All of the above

ANSWER: D. Joseph's brothers harmed him in a number of ways, but God redeemed those difficult situations and used them for good.

5) How did God redeem Joseph's life?

- a. Made him second-in-command of Egypt
- b. Brought Jesus to earth through Joseph's family line
- c. Put Joseph in charge of storing up lots of grain for a famine
- d. All of the above

ANSWER: D. Joseph faced many difficult circumstances in his life, but God redeemed the hard times in good ways that benefited many people.

6) True or False: Joseph cried and hugged his brothers the second he saw them.

ANSWER: False. Joseph pretended he didn't know his brothers.

7) What did God tell Moses to do when He spoke through the burning bush?



- a. Eat a pickle
b. Jump around in circles
c. Take off his sandals
d. Bow down

ANSWER: C. God told Moses to remove his sandals because he was standing on holy ground.

- 8) True or False: When God fought to free His people from Egypt, He sent an army.

ANSWER: False. God used 10 different plagues to prove to Pharaoh and His people, the Israelites, that He is the one true God.

- 9) How many plagues did God bring down on Egypt?

- a. 10
b. 5
c. 25
d. 15

ANSWER: A. God used 10 plagues—from frogs to locusts to darkness—to free His people.

- 10) What protected the Israelites from the Egyptian army while God held back the waters of the Red Sea?

- a. A giant
b. A big pile of rocks
c. A pillar of cloud and an angel of the Lord
d. A tornado

ANSWER: C. God provided a pillar of cloud to guide the Israelites by night, and an angel of the Lord stood between the Egyptian army and the Israelites until they safely crossed the Red Sea.

SMALL GROUP

SECTION

BLESS// 5 min.

Small Group Leaders

Children may receive a blessing from their leaders or one another. A blessing may be a prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words to encourage and guide.

SUPPLIES

- Bible

RELATE

For this experience, have small groups gather together. Then pray a blessing from Psalm 98:1–9a over the group. As you read the blessing, pause at the indicated places and encourage kids to celebrate for a few seconds by cheering, dancing, and clapping.

Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. Celebrate.

The LORD has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations. He has



remembered his love and his faithfulness to Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Celebrate.

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music; make music to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing, with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn— shout for joy before the LORD, the King. Celebrate.

Let the sea resound, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it. Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing together for joy; let them sing before the LORD. Celebrate.

Finally, pray the following blessing over your group:

May you know God loves you and redeems you. May you rest in His peace, joy, and grace this week.