

ICEBREAKER: What is your favorite holiday and why?

LARGE GROUP QUESTIONS:

(Read verse 7) The Jews celebrated the Passover Supper to commemorate God delivering them from cruel bondage and slavery in Egypt. The Passover remembered how the Israelites sacrificed a lamb, and dipping a hyssop branch with the lamb’s blood, placed the blood on the top and sides of the doorframe.

In so doing, the Israelites **avoided God’s judgment** upon Egypt as He declared, “I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the Lord.” (Exodus 12:12) Seeing the lamb’s blood over a home’s doorway, the Angel of Death **passed over** God’s people in striking down every firstborn in Egypt.

In this Passover Supper, Jesus ended an old covenant and instituted a new covenant. God’s people would no longer remember Passover in Egypt, but the Passover in Christ. In Christ, not only the Jews, but all peoples could be passed over from God’s judgment upon sin. As Apostle Paul proclaimed, “For **Christ our Passover Lamb** has been sacrificed.” (1 Corinthians 5:7)

1. How does knowing **God’s judgment** has **passed over** you only because of Jesus’ shed blood **affect your daily life?**

(Read verses 15-17) Knowing in only a few hours He would **face shameless ridicule, unspeakable torture and death**, Jesus does not hold a pity party for Himself, but prepares an elaborate Passover Supper with His disciples. Notice His **attitude**, “**I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer**...After taking the cup, He **gave thanks**.”

2. How can Jesus’ **attitude before** facing **ridicule, torture and death shape** how you can face your **own difficulties?**

(Read verses 20-23) Jesus **knew beforehand Judas** was **His betrayer**. Yet, Jesus still **invited Judas** to the Last Supper. As the Host of the Passover, Jesus would have greeted all His disciples with a traditional **kiss** of peace, including Judas’. Jesus **washed** all the disciples **feet**, including Judas’ (John 13).

Repeatedly Jesus stated a traitor was in their midst, but never openly identified him as Judas. Jesus protected Judas’ identity to the very end, as if making **final appeals** for Judas **to repent**.

3. How does **Jesus’ treatment of someone** He knew would **betray Him** surprise you?

(Read verse 23) What was **obvious** to Jesus was **hidden** to the disciples. Jesus saw plainly Judas as the traitor. Yet, the disciples, who spent as much time with Judas as Jesus had, could not see Judas’ treacherous and compromising heart.

4. What is something **dark** in you that is **plain to Jesus**, but **hidden** to most **others?**

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE & USE PRAYER LIST AS BIBLE BOOK MARKER

PRAYER GROUP TIME

(Make a list of people whom those in your group plan to share Christ with this week.)
