



Remember Me The Lord's Supper/Passover
1 Corinthians 11:23-26, Exodus 12

WEEK 4

Key Question: **What are some good habits you have?** As kids get older, they can establish routines and habits that help them remember certain things: brushing their teeth, eating healthy food, and yes, even saying thank you. Throughout this lesson, we hope that kids discover ways that will help them remember to show gratitude for Jesus and the gift of salvation.

We finish up the month in **1 Corinthians 11:23-26** and **Exodus 12**. In 1 Corinthians 11, Paul talks about taking time to celebrate Communion, or the Lord's Supper. When we eat the bread and drink the cup, we celebrate how Jesus lived, died, and rose again to make us right with God. As we think about what Paul wrote, we'll also take time to remember that this celebration is rooted in the Passover celebration, where God's people remembered how God rescued them from being enslaved in Egypt.

Bottom Line: **Make a habit of being grateful.** People often focus on bad habits that they need to stop. However, the best way to stop a bad habit is to replace it with a good one. Replace those sweets with healthy choices. Replace TV with exercise. Replace complaining with gratitude. We pray that kids will start to see that gratitude is a choice that God can help them make—especially when they remember all that Jesus did for us on the cross.

them.

HEADS UP: IDEAS TO KEEP IN MIND AS YOU TALK ABOUT GRATITUDE WITH KIDS

On the surface, gratitude might be one of those topics that everyone can relate to. We all have something to be thankful for. However, there are some things to keep in mind when it comes to how kids think and process these sorts of topics. Remember, kids think like scientists. They are concrete thinkers who start from the most literal interpretation of what they hear people say. When we use a phrase like, "We can be thankful for God's blessings," and kids don't come from a family with many monetary blessings or have recently lost a loved one or pet, they might start to feel like God isn't blessing them. Kids are also starting to compare and contrast. When we go around the circle and kids start naming things they're grateful for—good grades, video games, big vacations, etc.—kids who don't have those things might feel bad about themselves and what they have. Steer the conversation to include more general reasons for gratitude that can be inclusive for everyone: friends, church, needs that are met, and people who love us. Of course, be sure to tie all of it back to being thankful to God for the free gift of salvation through Jesus.

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Make a habit of being grateful.

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What are some good habits you have?

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Give thanks to the Lord, because he is good.
His faithful love continues forever."

Psalms 136:1, NIV

TEACHING GUIDE:

KEYSCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, Exodus 12

This message should be 15-18 min. More time for small group is key.

Remember the lead small model.

SLIDE: KEY QUESTION

"What are some good habits you have? How can the habits you have also teach you when it comes to developing good habits of remembering what Jesus has done for you? What are some other good habits we can develop in our relationship with God . . . like prayer, Bible reading, or serving others? You'll talk more about this with your Small Group, but before you head out, let's pray and ask God to help us develop good habits, especially when it comes to remembering all that Jesus has done for us! Let's pray!"

LANDING COMMUNICATOR:

What are some good habits you have?

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Remember Me
The Lord's Supper/Passover
1 Corinthians 11:23-26, Exodus 12

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What are some good habits you have?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Make a habit of being grateful.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Give thanks to the Lord, because he is good. His faithful love continues forever."
Psalm 136:1, NirV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Gratitude—Letting others know you see how they've helped you

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.

LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS STUDENTS ENTER.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

Host enters . . .

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

WELCOME

Host has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to [Name of Environment]. Host is relatable and inviting. Host can talk about something that happened culturally throughout the week like a big sports game, movie opening, a viral video on YouTube, etc. Host tells them how excited he or she is that they're there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what's happening.

OPENER

HOST: "What's up, friends! We are here for our final week of gratitude Shout-Outs! We've had a great month discovering more about how we can let others know how much they've helped us. But we're not finished yet.

"All month, we've been collecting non-perishable canned good for [Name of Local Organization]. And would you just look at this?! You all have brought in more cans than I can count. That's so awesome. You know what, I have an idea. Before we pack up these cans and send them out, how about we use them for a little game. Let's call it, the 'Shout-Out Can-struction Project.'

SLIDE: "SHOUT-OUT CAN-STRUCTION PROJECT"

"When I say go, Small Groups will run and grab about 10-20 cans. When you get back to your Small Group, start putting the cans on the floor to spell 'Shout Out.' The first Small Group to spell 'S-H-O-U-T O-U-T' wins. Cans don't have to touch end-to-end. As long as we can read the word, you're good. Got it? Any questions? Great! On your mark, get set, GO!

AUDIO: FUN BACKGROUND MUSIC



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

Divide into Small Groups. Groups can run up and get extra cans if necessary.

Afterwards, have the kids bring the cans back to the stage. Be sure to remind everyone that these cans will get delivered to [Name of Local Organization] to help people in your community.

(After the game) "Now THAT was pretty amazing. You all are really creative! Thank you so much for bringing these cans in to help people in our community! Now, let's stand together and worship our amazing God!"

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Right now, we get to lift our voices to give praise to God. God made us and loves us. God is great and worthy of our praise. Let's sing God's praise together, because we are so thankful!"

AUDIO: "SING YOUR PRAISE" / TRACK 2 FROM MY LIFE FOR YOU

OPTIONAL VIDEO: "SING YOUR PRAISE" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

"So good! Whatever we might be going through in life, we can remember how much God loves us and cares for us. Before we continue in worship, check this out.

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): LIVE LOUD VIDEO FROM GET REEL

"Do you remember these words from 1 Thessalonians 5:18? 'Give thanks no matter what happens. God wants you to thank him because you believe in Christ Jesus.' (NirV) We can choose to be grateful to God—today and every day—because we know that God is always good. God loved us enough to send Jesus FOR us. Sing this with me.

AUDIO: "I'M SO GRATEFUL" / TRACK 3 FROM MY LIFE FOR YOU

OPTIONAL VIDEO: "I'M SO GRATEFUL" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

"We can live a life of gratitude when we remember how much Jesus has done for us. Jesus showed us how to live by loving God and loving others. Jesus showed kindness and compassion to everyone He met. We can put our trust in Jesus and know that He is with us through anything we might face in life. Let's sing this next song that says, 'Jesus, I will trust You.'"

AUDIO: "JESUS I WILL TRUST YOU" / TRACK 2 FROM THIS LOVE

OPTIONAL VIDEO: "JESUS I WILL TRUST YOU" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT (STORY)

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit. Communicator is dribbling a basketball.

INTRODUCTION

COMMUNICATOR: "Hey, everyone! So great to be with you all as always. *(Still dribbling basketball)* Pretty impressed by these mad dribbling skills, right?"

Communicator tries to do some crazy moves and succeeds or fails.

"Is anyone else able to dribble a ball well?"

Communicator chooses a volunteer. Volunteer comes up and demonstrates.

"Have you always been able to dribble like that? Was there ever a time you couldn't? So . . . how did you get so good at it?"

Volunteer responds.

Awesome! Let's give them a hand.

Volunteer sits and Communicator grabs three tennis balls.

"Or how about juggling?"

Communicator attempts to juggle. Success or failure doesn't matter.

"Does anyone know how to juggle well?"

Communicator chooses a volunteer who can juggle controlled.

(Asking volunteer) So, how did you get good at that?"

Volunteer responds. Volunteer sits.

"Does anyone know their three times tables?"

Communicator chooses a volunteer, who comes up and demonstrates by saying their three times tables.

"How did you get so good at multiplication? Did you always know how to do it?"

Volunteer responds. Volunteer sits.

"Who has some sneakers on?"



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HOME

25 MINUTES

Volunteer chooses someone or multiple volunteers and brings them up.

"Can you untie your shoes for me?"

Volunteers untie their shoes.

"Okay now retie them!"

Volunteers tie their shoes.

"Now untie!"

Volunteers untie their shoes.

"Okay now retie them!"

Volunteers tie their shoes.

"Wow. You're really good at that. Have you always known how to tie your shoes so well?"

Volunteers respond and then sit down.

"So did you all catch any themes in their answers? Any common threads, if you will?"

Kids respond.

"Yes! Everything that our volunteers knew how to do so well took practice until it became a . . . habit!"

TENSION

COMMUNICATOR: "Alright, so habit is usually a word that we associate with something not so great for us, right? Like snacking before dinner or biting our nails. But actually, habits can be actually great. Like dribbling a ball, being good at math, brushing your teeth, or keeping your shoelaces tied.

"But what about a habit of gratitude, specifically when it comes to our faith in Jesus? Can someone actually practice and get better at celebrating Jesus and all He's done for you? That's an interesting question, one I'd like for us to think about today. After all, what Jesus did for us by dying on the cross and coming back to life was AMAZING; we should probably figure out how we can make a habit out of thanking Him for that.

"And thankfully, we have the best place to start when it comes to learning about what it means to follow Jesus: The Bible! The Bible is all about Jesus, why He came, what He did, and how we can live because of it all. Let's see what the writers of the Bible have to say about a habit of gratitude for Jesus.

NOTE: The following will require personalization to how your church practices communion. Also, if the kids would be more likely to hear "Lord's Supper" or "Eucharist" at your church, feel free to change that as well.



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HOME

25 MINUTES

TRUTH

COMMUNICATOR: “Before Jesus went back to heaven, Jesus actually asked His disciples to carry on a tradition. Basically, Jesus built in a rhythm or habit for remembering that has been passed on for generations ever since. That tradition is called communion. Around here at [Name of Church] we do communion every [frequency]. Some churches do it differently. But why do we even celebrate communion in the first place? And where did it come from? Well, THAT’s what we’re focusing on today.

Communicator grabs the prop box.

“Alright, show of hands . . . how many of you are familiar with an event in the Bible called ‘the Exodus’? (Get response) Cool. Well, just in case you need a quick refresher, let’s go back near the beginning of our Bible for a moment.

“You might remember that God called a man named Abraham and promised to make him into a great nation. Through some pretty extraordinary circumstances, God kept that promise, and from Abraham’s family, the nation of Israel was born. Fast forward several hundreds of years, that family ended up in Egypt where they truly began to grow into a nation. But as they grew, Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, grew fearful of the number of Israelites, so he initiated harsh policies to enslave the Israelites. It was into this oppression that God called Moses to rescue His people from being enslaved to the Egyptians.

“The problem? Pharaoh was not interested in letting these people leave. After all, he wondered how he’d build his grand cities without them. Pharaoh had decided, and they were NOT leaving.

“But God was also serious about rescuing the Israelites, so we read in Exodus how God sent a series of plagues, or judgments, against Egypt intended to demonstrate power but also to reinforce how powerless Pharaoh and the gods of Egypt were. These plagues were pretty wild. Things like frogs everywhere. Hail to destroy crops. Darkness to make it impossible to see. But after each one, Pharaoh just hardened his heart even harder, refusing to let the Israelites go. That brings us to the night of the final plague. But before the plague, God asked something a bit strange from the Israelites. God asked them to have a meal.

“Now, this wasn’t just any meal. There were some very specific instructions. First, each family and home was to share this meal . . .

Take out a set of house keys and shake them. “Got some house keys here . . .” Set them on the table.

“And each home was to take . . . a lamb.

Take stuffed animal lamb and place it on the table.

“But not just any lamb. This was supposed to be the best of the best. Flawless.

Communicator looks over the stuffed animal and gives approval.

“Now as they prepared the lamb for the meal, they were also supposed to take some of the blood from the lamb, and I know this might sound a little strange . . . so let’s just read it from the book of Exodus.



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25 MINUTES

Open the Bible to Exodus 12:7 (NirV) and read.

“Take some of the blood. Put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where you eat the lambs.”

Communicator takes leafy branch and pretends to paint a doorway.

“And that brings us to the final plague. The tenth. So, what would happen that night? It was bad.

Open the Bible to Exodus 12:12-13 (NirV) and read.

“That same night I will pass through Egypt. I will strike down all those born first among the people and animals. And I will judge all the gods of Egypt. I am the Lord. The blood on your houses will be a sign for you. When I see the blood, I will pass over you. No deadly plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.”

“So, after nine plagues and nine times of Pharaoh saying no, the tenth and final plague happened just as God said. That night, a destructive plague swept through Egypt, but the homes of the Israelites that had the blood on the doorposts were passed over. Later, through Moses, God told the people to celebrate this rescue every year. Do you know what they ended up calling this celebration? That’s right—Passover!

“And through this miraculous event, God used Moses to lead the Israelites out of their oppression in Egypt once and for all.

Take chains out of the prop box and lay them on the table.

“Now, even though this was a one-time rescue, this was not a one-time meal. Let me explain. See, eventually after many years of ups and downs wandering the wilderness, the Israelites would make it to the promised land, and God told them to keep eating this meal every year on the anniversary of the Passover. But why? It is not like they needed to be rescued again. Well, check this out.

Open the Bible to Exodus 12:24-27 (NirV) and read.

“So, why did God want the Israelites to make a habit of eating this meal every year? Simple: to remember. To be able to tell their kids the story every year about what God did to rescue them. Even today, Jewish people gather. And as they sat around tables . . .

Communicator pulls up a seat to the prop table.

“As they eat the lamb . . . they remember (looks at stuffed animal). Even the way they eat the bread is meant to remember . . .

Communicator pulls bread out of the prop box.

“See, normally when you make bread, you put yeast in it. That makes it rise and get all nice and fluffy. But on the night that God’s people left Egypt, they left in such a hurry that they didn’t have time to let the yeast rise, so the bread was flat! So every year on the Passover, God’s people were to eat bread that didn’t have any yeast in it. And they did this . . . to remember.

“So, for generations to come, this was the special way that God planned for the Israelites to remember and celebrate what God had done to rescue them.



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"Now . . . fast forward centuries later. Jesus was gathered with His closest friends around.

Point to the prop table.

"Any guesses at what they were doing? Yeah! They were celebrating the Passover! They were doing what so many other families were doing and had done for generations and generations. But Jesus ended up doing something really important at this meal.

"Jesus knew the very next day, the next morning even, He would be headed to the cross. And on that cross, He would lay down His life to rescue the world. Jesus, the Lamb of God—the best of the best. The flawless one. Jesus was about to lead a new exodus, leading people out of oppression . . . not from a power like Egypt . . . but from sin and death.

"We can read about the story from the apostle Paul in his letter to the Corinthians . . .

Open the Bible to 1 Corinthians 11:23-24 (NirV) and read.

"I passed on to you what I received from the Lord. On the night the Lord Jesus was handed over to his enemies, he took bread. When he had given thanks, he broke it. He said, "This is my body. It is given for you. Every time you eat it, do it in memory of me."

"Jesus took bread . . .

Holds up the bread on the table.

"But instead of it just being a symbol of how quickly the Israelites had left Egypt, it was now a symbol of Jesus' own body and how it would be given.

"And now, at this Passover, they didn't put blood on the doorposts (*holds up the branch brush*), but Jesus did something significant as they sat around the table . . .

Open the Bible to 1 Corinthians 11:25-26 (NirV) and read.

"In the same way, after supper he took the cup. He said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Every time you drink it, do it in memory of me." You eat the bread and drink the cup. When you do this, you are announcing the Lord's death until he comes again.'

Communicator takes a glass goblet out and pours some grape juice in it.

"Jesus took the cup, which now stood for His blood that would be shed.

"Did anyone hear a phrase that Jesus repeated after both the bread and the cup?

Allow for responses.

"Every time you eat it or drink it, do it in memory of Me. To remember. That's why the Israelites ate the Passover meal every year, too. They were remembering all that God had done to rescue them. So, why do we eat the bread and drink



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the cup that we call communion? To remember and make a habit of celebrating what God has done to rescue us!"

APPLICATION

COMMUNICATOR: "We can read it in Jesus' own words the night before He went to the cross. Jesus was building into His followers . . . building into US . . . a habit for how to remember and be thankful for what He has done for us.

"Maybe you haven't understood communion before or haven't seen the big deal as to why the church does it. But I hope that now you can see how Jesus Himself has given us a way to remember what He has done for us and to remember all year long!

NOTE: Here is a good place for you to explain how your church celebrates communion and what it means for them and their family.

"But even if you don't celebrate communion yet, you can still make a habit of remembering what Jesus did for you with His life, death, and resurrection. You can write a favorite Bible verse and tape it up somewhere where you can see it and remember. You can make a playlist of worship songs to Jesus and listen to it as you fall asleep at night or when you're on your way to school or practice . . . and remember. You could even make a habit of talking with a parent or a friend about what God is doing in your life to . . . you guessed it . . . remember. There are all sorts of ways you can remember that Jesus loves you so much and gave His life for you to be with God forever!"

LANDING

COMMUNICATOR: "Today as you go to groups, think about this:

SLIDE: KEY QUESTION

"What are some good habits you have? How can the habits you have also teach you when it comes to developing good habits of remembering what Jesus has done for you? What are some other good habits we can develop in our relationship with God . . . like prayer, Bible reading, or serving others? You'll talk more about this with your Small Group, but before you head out, let's pray and ask God to help us develop good habits, especially when it comes to remembering all that Jesus has done for us! Let's pray!"

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Communicator leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard. After prayer, Communicator dismisses kids to Small Group.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP