

Week 6: God provides an escape

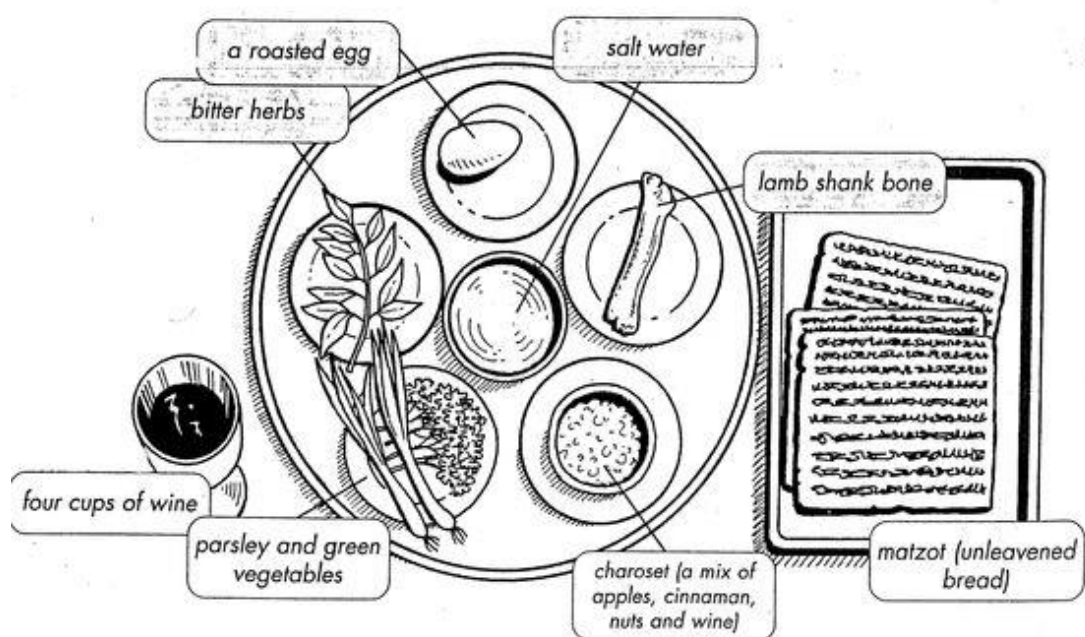
The Israelites were slaves in Egypt. God spoke to Moses from inside a burning bush. God said that Moses was going to take the Israelites out of Egypt, so that they could become free. God sent ten plagues to Egypt, to make the Pharaoh let them go. The night before the tenth plague, God told the Israelites to put the blood of a lamb above the door, to pack their bags and get ready to leave early the next morning. The sign of the lamb's blood would protect them from the tenth plague.

The next morning they left Egypt, and God protected them as they escaped even though the Pharaoh sent his army to chase after them. But the army didn't catch them because God opened up the Red Sea so that the Israelites could walk through on dry land. Then He closed it up again, and the Pharaoh's army was drowned. But God's people were safe.

Every year after that, the Israelites, also called Jews, celebrate with a feast called the Passover. A lamb is always eaten at the Passover to remind them of the blood of the lamb that was placed above the door. The lamb's blood was also a sign that one day Jesus would die on the cross, so that all people in the world could be freed from sin.

Passover foods:

- Flat bread to remind them of the bread they made to take on their journey. They did not have time to wait for bread to rise.
- Lamb to remember the blood of the lamb over the doorposts
- Bitter herbs to remind them of their bitter time in Egypt
- Egg to remind them of their offering to God at the temple
- Parsley dipped in saltwater to remind them of the tears they cried in Egypt
- Apples, cinnamon and nuts to remind them of the mortar used in the bricks in Egypt



Week 7: Giving thanks

Psalm 107:1 Give thanks to the Lord for He is _____.

Psalm 34: 10 Even young lions go hungry for lack of food, but those who obey the Lord _____.

Malachi 3:10 Bring all your tithes into the Temple so that

What did the Israelites bring to the temple at the fest of the First Fruits?

Today we can give God thanks for all that He has provided by:

1. Saying thank you to God before we ____.
2. S _____ our provision with others.

Write a prayer of thanks to God for the things He has provided for you.



Week 8: God provides forgiveness

Jewish people have special days to thank God for forgiving them for their sins. The trumpet is sounded. It is a ram's horn called a shofar.

The people of the Old Testament had to offer sacrifices for their sins.

They would kill a lamb and the lamb's blood was a sign that their sins were forgiven.

The lamb had to be perfect, without anything wrong with it.

When Jesus came to earth, He became the sacrifice for our sins when He shed His blood on the cross. He was the lamb of God who took away the sins of the world.



John 1:29

When John the Baptist saw Jesus coming he said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who _____"

Jesus was the perfect lamb because He had never sinned.

Hebrews 7:26 He is holy; He has no _____

Hebrews 7:27 He offered one sacrifice, once and for all when _____

But not everyone in the world is forgiven for their sin. Who is forgiven?
Romans 10:13 _____

What do we have to do if we want to be forgiven for our sin?
1 John 1:9 _____

Psalms 139:23 – 24 Ask God to _____

Psalms 51:10 Ask God to _____

Week 9: Thanksgiving for our homes

The Feast of the Tabernacles

This is a feast of great joy. It reminds the Jews of God's great goodness as He provided for them as they walked across the desert after their escape from Egypt. God provided a type of bread called manna, and birds called quails. He also provided water. He also provided a cloud to follow during the day so that they would know which way to go. And at night He provided a fire so that they would have light. Because the people lived in tents during their journey across the desert, for this festival Jewish people set up a shelter, called a sukkah, in their backyard and have a feast in the shelter. (The shelter is taken down after the feast). Everyone rejoices before the Lord with palm branches.

What did God provide for the Israelites to eat as they walked across the desert? _____

What else did He provide? _____

What is a sukkah? _____

Why is there food in the sukkah?

Why are there palm branches on top of the sukkah?



Week 10: God is with us

Hanukkah

This is also called the festival of lights. To celebrate this festival the Jews have a special candle-holder that holds eight candles. They light one candle every night for eight nights. This feast celebrates freedom from enemy rule. Over 2000 years ago an emperor of Syria was cruel to the Jewish people. He tried to force them to stop believing in the true God and to worship idols. Judah Macabee, a brave Jew, took an army and overthrew the Emperor and his men. The holy lamp was lit in the temple again and there was enough oil to burn not just for one day as everyone expected, but for eight days.

Hanukkah is a time of gift giving, a time of feasting and a time of games. It is a reminder of the faithfulness of God. Latkes, (potato pancakes), are one of the special foods eaten for this feast. One of the games played is the spinning top game.

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world". Christians celebrate Christmas at around the same time as Hanukkah. Christians celebrate Jesus who was born into the world to save us from our sins.



Make a list of the things that are the same about Hanukkah and Christmas.

Hanukkah	Christmas
God provided ...	God provided Jesus, theof the world
People give ...	People give ...
People eat ...	People eat ...
People give thanks to ...	People give thanks to ...