Passover for Young Families

**For the Year 2020 (Jewish 5780)**

**\* NOTE** There are 4 “Cups” drunk during this ceremony. So keep lots of **grape juice or wine** nearby.

\* All items that need prior preparation are colored in **GREEN**.

\* Replace “child 1, 2, 3” etc. with names so that everyone can follow the script.

\* If you have little ones—or just need the shortest possible Seder—I’ve put optional sections in **BLUE**. Father starts by saying:

**Welcome to the 3,332th year that Passover is being celebrated!**

We will begin by the woman of the house lighting the candles,

in honor of Yeshua, the Light of the world.

**MOTHER** Light **CANDLES** and say: *Baruch atah Adonai, Elohenu melech ha-olam, asher kid’shanu b’Yeshua ha-Mashiach, Or ha-olam.* Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who has sanctified us in Yeshua the Messiah, the Light of the world.

**FATHER** raises a **cup of wine/grape juice** and prays, *Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech ha-olam, borei p'ri hagafen.* Blessed are You, O LORD our God, King of the Universe, Creator of the Fruit of the Vine… (This is the blessing referred to in Lk 22:19.) We dedicate this evening to Your honor, and sanctify this table to be an altar of thanksgiving and remembrance tonight. It is holy because Your Presence makes it holy. Be glorified here tonight, in the name of Yeshua, amen.

Welcome to the Passover feast everyone! God loves a good party! He filled the Jewish calendar with parties! Yeshua’s first miracle was (? who knows?) providing the best wine at a wedding celebration. When the prodigal son returned, his Father(Did what?) threw a party for him, and we are all looking forward to the party the Father will throw Yeshua and called out ones, (What’s it called?) the Marriage Supper of the Lamb! So tonight, among other things, we’re going to enjoy eating and hanging out together.“Seder” means (Anybody know?) ORDER, but the exact order isn’t given to us in Scripture. Much of what we’ll do tonight is tradition passed down through generations.

\*Historical note: What you are doing tonight is illegal! The official (Catholic) church officially severed Jewish roots throughout history: in AD 787, The Council of Nicea II required Jewish believers in Yeshua to formally renounce and condemn observance of the Sabbath, Biblical festivals, and all expressions of Jewish worship. From this point on Yeshua and the apostles would have been banned from the Catholic Church! So they replaced Passover, the anniversary of Jesus’ death, with a festival to a Babylonian God named ISHTAR. Greek and Latin letters for I are pronounced EE, and there is no SH sound in Greek… so we arrived at EASTER for this pagan holiday, accompanied by fertility symbols of eggs and rabbits. If WE see eggs and rabbits during the Passover season… just think of NEW LIFE!

**OPTIONAL: Why should we Gentile believers observe this Jewish meal? 3 reasons:**

**1. Yeshua is Jewish**

**CHILD 1** Mt 2:2 – 1Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, 2saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? So he was born Jewish.

**CHILD 2** Mk 15:1-2 – Then Pilate asked Him, “Are You the King of the Jews?” He answered and said to him, “It is as you say.” He lived as King of the Jews.

**CHILD 3** Jn 19:19-22 – 19Now Pilate wrote a title and put it on the cross. And the writing was: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. He died as King of the Jews.

**MOTHER** Revelation 22:16 – “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star.” His Jewish identity remains – through all eternity! Jesus was an observant Jew, who lived almost his entire life in Israel. His name was actually Yeshua. His brothers’ names were Yaacov (James), Yoseph (Joseph), Yehuda (Jude), and Shimon (Simon). His mother’s name was Miriam (Mary). He was born in Bet Lechem (Bethlehem), performed many miracles in Kfar Nahum (Capernaum), and had a favorite disciple named Yochanan (John).

**2. Passover was important to Yeshua.** By celebrating the Passover seder we are connecting to do something that was extremely important in the life of Yeshua. Knowing that He was about to die, what was Yeshua passionate to do?

**CHILD 1** Luke 22:14-16 – When the hour had come, He sat down, and the twelve apostles with Him. “Then He said to them, “With fervent desire (passionate, zealous, burning) I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I say to you, I will no longer eat of it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” What’s that mean?

**3. We’re connected to Israel** (Judaism and the Jewish people)

**CHILD 2** Rom 11:17-18 And if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and with them became a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree, do not boast against the branches. But if you do boast, remember that you do not support the root, but the root supports you.

**MOTHER** Does being grafted into the olive tree of Israel *obligate us* to keep the law given to Moses, including observing the biblical feasts? Absolutely not! It does, however, give us the opportunity to enrich and deepen our faith by drawing meaning from our roots, from our heritage. And our spiritual heritage is not as Americans, but as sons of Abraham and Yeshua, some of our Jewish heroes and mentors!

**Before the Seder- Deal with Leaven!**

**FATHER** All leaven (yeast) is to be removed from the home in response to God’s command:

**CHILD 1** Exodus 12:18-19 **-** In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month at evening, you shall eat unleavened bread, until the twenty-first day of the month at evening. For seven days no leaven shall be found in your houses, since whoever eats what is leavened, that same person shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he is a stranger or a native of the land.

**FATHER** In Jerusalem they cover all products with leaven in them in the supermarkets, so they can’t be purchased. Businessmen sell all their leavened products for a token sum to non-Jews, and then purchase them back after seven days. The ultra-orthodox won’t even drink water from the Sea of Galilee, one of Israel’s main water sources, because fisherman in the sea may have used bread as bait. Women scour their homes to remove all traces of leaven. On the evening before the Seder the man of the house searches by candlelight for any crumbs of leaven that might remain. His wife leaves a morsel or two so that he can sweep them with a feather into a wooden spoon and can therefore feel maximum satisfaction that he has carried out God’s ordinance. (Fathersweeps up **bread crumbs with a feather into a spoon.)**

In the New Testament **leaven** is used to represent **sin.** Now that we are houses of God, let’s join with David and ask God to do all the housecleaning that is necessary in our lives, right now.

**MOTHER Psalm 139:23-24** - Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; 24And see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

(Everyone pray silently for a minute for God to bring any sin to mind.

Take time to confess around the table what God might be saying to confess.)

Now we’re ready!

1. **POEM**

**CHILD 2** Every year we sit down for the Passover Seder

And recall Egypt’s Pharoah (that Israeli hater!)

He enslaved the chosen of Yehovah’s heart

Until God decided, “They NOW will depart”

**CHILD 3** God spoke to Moses from a bush that was burning  
And told him the tide of His people was turning  
God said that Moses, with His help, would be  
The man I AM wanted to set the slaves free!

**MOTHER** Moshe went to Pharaoh and there made his plea,  
But Pharaoh just laughed and snickered with glee:

“Let loose MY slaves? I’m not stupid, am I?

Those Jews will go free on the day that I die!”

1. **SINGING (Pick whichever you want)**

**Let My People Go**  
When Israel was in Egypt Land…  
Let My people go!   
Oppressed so hard they could not stand…  
Let My people go!

*Go down Moses, way down in Egypt land*

*Tell old Pharoah… LET MY PEOPLE GO*

When we get trapped along life’s way

Let My people go!

We still hear our Deliverer say:

Let My people go!

**That’ll be the day (this is what Pharoah would sing)**  
Whoa, that’ll be the day

The Jews say goodbye

That’ll be the day

My slave drivers cry

I say I’m gonna let ya

You know it’s a lie, cause

That’ll be the day-ay-ay that I die!

**I’ve been working on the buildings**

(Sung to the tune of "I've Been Working on the Railroad”)   
I've been working on these buildings; Pharaoh doesn't pay.  
I've been doing what he tells me, like making bricks from clay.  
Can't you hear the master calling? "Hurry up, make a brick!” (HURRY UP!)  
Can't you hear the master calling? His voice just makes me sick!  
Oh, is this a mess  
Oh, this is a mess for Jews, for Jews.  
Oh, this is a mess

Oh, this is a mess for Jews.

Someone’s in the palace with Moshe

Someone’s in the palace I know-o-o-o-o

Someone’s in the palace with Moshe

God make them let us go!

**Take Us All Out of Egypt**  
(Sung to the tune of "Take Me Out to the Ballgame")

Take us all out of Egypt.  
Free us from slavery.  
Bake us some matzot bread! Bake in haste!  
Give no thought to flavor, cause it’s got no taste  
So it's scoot, scoot, scoot to the Red Sea  
If we don't cross then we’ll die!   
So it’s ONE! TWO! 10 Plagues you're out and we say goodbye!

1. **SEDER PLATE**

**CHILD 1** Moses tried hard just to make Pharaoh see  
That all of God’s people would have to go free.  
Yehovah sent 10 plagues to make Pharoah vow  
“I want you all gone! So go! Get out now!”

**CHILD 2** Israel had no time to sit down and pack  
They put all their food, clothes, and homes on their back  
They walked on dry land across God’s parted sea.  
And, once across, God’s chosen family was free!!

**CHILD 3** What’s one thing you would grab if you had to leave your home in a hurry? Everyone answer.

**MOTHER** And now, let’s all look: our year’s fanciest plate

It’s Jewish but there’s not an olive or date!

Each item has meaning, so now let’s begin

To hear of their Passover purpose again

**I’m A Little Seder Plate**

(Sung to the tune of "I'm a Little Teapot")

(Father show the ingredients as the song is sung)  
I'm a little Seder plate shiny and new.  
I’m a group of symbols to teach about the Jews.   
Karpas is the greens that say “new birth”  
Maror! So bitter tastes like. A. Curse!

Roasted egg so round and brown and odd  
Shank bone all burned like a gift to God.   
Charoset: a mix of sweet and tart

Just Like! The bittersweet Jew. Ish. Heart!

**FATHER:**   
There are six items on the Seder Plate:

1) The Z’roar (**roasted lamb bone**) represents the unblemished male lamb which was sacrificed on the afternoon before Passover, then roasted whole and eaten during the Seder.

2) The Baytzah (**roasted egg**) BAIT-ZUHrepresents the second Passover sacrifice, which was offered in the Temple in Jerusalem on the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. It represents mourning and sorrow over the loss of the Temple.

3) The Chazeret (**lettuce**) HAZ-A-RETis the “second bitter herb” by tradition… but it’s not bitter and I’m not sure why we need a *second* bitter herb, anyway… so I’ll let you figure this one out yourself!

4) The Karpas (greens/**parsley**) remind us of spring and the burst of beauty in nature this time of the year. The salt water we will dip the karpas in, is a reminder of the tears that the Jews cried for four hundred years when they were slaves in Egypt. Let’s dip and eat the karpas.

5) The Maror (bitter herb/**horseradish**) represents the bitterness of our sin: every time we disobey our parents or God, we eat the same bitterness the Israelites knew in Egypt. This is no way to live!

**CHILD 1** Exodus 1:13-14 - So the Egyptians made the children of Israel serve with rigor. 14 And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage—in mortar, in brick, and in all manner of service in the field. All their service in which they made them serve was with rigor.

**CHILD 2** Romans 6:16 - Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one’s slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?

**FATHER** We’re not going to talk about the 6th food item until after the meal. First… see the **matzoh**? It’s striped, and bruised, as if it was beaten. And it also has lots of holes in it, like someone drove nails into it. But now I will break it (do so), and we’ll wrap it in **cloth** (tea towel or napkin will do fine) and hide it away for a time. This piece of matzoh is the afikoman (AH-FEE-KOH-MIN which means “the Coming One”). So this bread, prepared for each of us, looks beaten, and bruised, and broken. Then it’s hidden away where nobody can see it for a short time, then it comes back out and everyone gets to have some! Remind you of Anybody you know??? (Hide the afikomen)

1. The Four Questions  
   An important tradition during Seder is the asking of the four questions. Kids are supposed to ask these four questions. As they do, we’ll all talk about the answers together.
2. **CHILD 3** Why is the night of Passover different from all other nights?
3. **CHILD 1** On all other nights, we eat all different kinds of bread. Why, on this night do we only eat matzah?
4. **CHILD 2** On all other nights, we eat all kinds of vegetables. Why on this night must we eat bitter herbs?
5. **CHILD 3** On all other nights, we eat in a normal way. Why on this night do we eat with special ceremony?
6. To help us remember them, let’s act out the plagues!

1. Blood (Look into your cup… what if ALL WATER turned red as blood? How would you bathe? Laundry? Etc.)
2. Frogs (Jump and croak like a frog)
3. Lice or gnats (Scratch your head)
4. Flies on the Wild Beasts (Howl like a beast)
5. Cattle Disease (Moo like a sick cow)
6. Boils (Pinch your arms and body)
7. Hail (Pat head, arms, shoulders where hail would hit you)
8. Locusts (Buzz around like a swarm)
9. Darkness (Turn out the lights, close your eyes and squeeze hands of the person next to you)
10. Death of the Firstborn (Give a moment of stillness and silence; imagine people crying in every house, all over the city)

Now can anybody tell the story of the 10th plague? (Let someone tell)

Right, the protection against the Angel of Death was the blood of the lamb, which was commanded for each family to apply. God has also provided a protecting Lamb for Our family! Who is it? Whose blood saves US from death and hell and poverty and starvation and loneliness? (JESUS!)

\*NOTE\* traditional Seder entrees are lamb and chicken. Any vegetable is fine (Jewish dishes are best!), but NO BREAD BESIDE MATZOH!

1. Eating!

**FATHER** With the meal goes the 2nd cup, which is a cup of DELIVERANCE. God delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage, and He still delivers us from the hand of the enemy. I will bless Him for our deliverer then let’s eat! *Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech ha-olam, borei p'ri hagafen.* Blessed are You, O LORD our God, King of the Universe, Creator of the Fruit of the Vine. With blood you deliver from death. Thank you for your overwhelming kindness to rescue. Thank you for the Lamb of God, Yeshua, killed for our salvation. And thank you for this good food! **NOW EAT and drink the cup with your meal!**

1. **Finding the Afikoman!**

**MOTHER** What a great meal that was! Now then… who wants to find the afikoman!? Whichever child finds it will receive a special prize! (**Piece of candy or a dollar**.) (Do that.) Again, Afikoman means “hidden” or “revealed One”; it was wrapped in a white napkin, hidden, and later found. Now, who was hidden away but was later found, and fits with the Father and the Holy Spirit? (Jesus!) Let’s pray that the Jews will find Him just like (child’s name) found this afikoman!

(Pray for Israel to know Yeshua, and for the peace of Jerusalem)

**FATHER** During Yeshua’s last Passover Seder, He took the Afikoman and the third cup, and gave them a greater significance. Passover, which tells of Israel’s freedom from slavery, was transformed into a remembrance of Jesus’ own death, which saved ***us*** from the slavery of sin.

(Break the Afikoman and give a piece to everyone)

**CHILD 1** 1 Corinthians 11:23-24 …the Lord Jesus, on the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “Take and eat it; this is My body, which is broken for you. Do this and remember Me.”

**FATHER:** Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu Melech Ha-Olam Ha-Motzee Lechem meen Ha-Arets. Blessed are You Lord our God, King of the Universe, Who Brings Forth Bread from the Earth. We eat this bread in remembrance of You, Yeshua, the Bread, which came down out of heaven that we may eat of it and not die. (All eat a piece of the Afikoman)

1. **The Third Cup**

The third cup is the **cup of Redemption**.

**CHILD 2** 1 Corinthians 11:25-26 - *In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes*.

**FATHER** Let’s stand to toast our Guest of Honor, King Jesus, Messiah of Israel! (All stand)

*Baruch ata Adonai Eloheynu Melech Ha-Olam Borey P’ree Hagafen.* Blessed are You, Lord Our God, King of the Universe, Who creates the fruit of the vine. We drink this cup in remembrance of You, Yeshua, who shed your precious blood to redeem us unto Yourself. We drink humbly LORD, asking that You would make us more like Yeshua. All we have is Yours.

Okay we can FINALLY talk about that final food on the Seder plate, which was part of our meal:

6) The Charoset (**apple mixture**) HUH-ROE-SET represents the mortar that the Israelites used in making the bricks and symbolizes labor and toil. But it’s sweet! Just as the Israelites were *set free* from their slave labor, we have been set free in Yeshua from the bitter toil of attempting to attain righteousness through our own works - isn’t that sweet?! Let’s eat some sweet charoset on a piece of matzoh. When Yeshua comes into your heart, EVERYTHING about life is sweet. Your work, your family, your friends, your school, your play time, sports, music, food… EVERYTHING becomes a joy when you know the Lamb of God!

**CHILD 3** Ephesians 2:8 – For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.

**CHILD 1** Romans 5:19 - For as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man’s obedience many will be made righteous.

**9. WORSHIP AND CLOSE**

**Sing Jesus worship songs everyone knows, like Thank You LORD for Loving Me,**

**Jesus in the morning, or whatever you know**

**CHILD 2** This Seder must come to an end, so I’m told,

We’ve remembered a story that will never grow old

We’ve smelled and tasted special foods and drink

It’s the year’s best night! (Well, that’s what \*I\* think!)

**CHILD 3** This history tells us some wonderful news:

That God will always love us- and the Jews!

His covenant lasts: His truth stands through time

Let’s now say thanks with a last cup of wine!

**FATHER:** The fourth and last cup is not drunk, it’s left unconsumed to remind us that THERE’S MORE YET TO COME: Someday God will pour out His Spirit on Israel. They will believe in Yeshua and receive their Messiah. Someday, Yeshua will descend and place His feet on the Mount of Olives, right where He left the disciples so long ago. Jesus will reign and we, His children, will enjoy His Kingdom forever. This cup represents crossing the Jordan into the Promised Land, and our crossing over into eternal life. We will drink this cup with Yeshua at the Passover in Heaven!

To close this Seder, I will read some statements and everyone say after me, “It would have been enough.” This is a way of thanking God for how much He’s given us.

If God had just taken us out of Egyptian slavery,  
(Group repeats) It would have been enough.   
If God had only given us the Torah,  
(Group repeats) It would have been enough.

If God had just given us Shabbat,  
(Group repeats) It would have been enough.

If God had given us the Land, and Jerusalem,  
(Group repeats) It would have been enough.

If God had only sent His Son to save Israel

(Group repeats) It would have been enough

If God had also extended His invitation to Gentiles

(Group repeats) It would have been enough

If God had just sent the Gospel to this nation

(Group repeats) It would have been enough

If God had stopped at justice, and never shown mercy

(Group repeats) It would have been enough

If God had saved those before me

(Group repeats) It would have been enough

**But God, through Christ, looked past my rebellion and sin, and saved me.**

**10.** It’s tradition to close by everyone saying together:

**NEXT YEAR IN JERUSALEM!**