

All Age Worship at Home

(AAWH040)

The Big Story of God 40: “The Last Supper” Maundy Thursday

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ALL AGE WORSHIP
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THE BIG STORY OF GOD 40

“The Last Supper” – Maundy Thursday

Introduction:

This short act of worship has been prepared for people of all ages to take part in at home. Below you will find instructions and the things that you will need to collect beforehand in order to take part. Adapt the script as is suitable for your situation and the age of those taking part.

Through this Coronavirus outbreak, we are seeing “the story” of a pandemic and how it is affecting the nations. But above this story is God’s big story; His story of Creation, the Fall, Redemption, and Restoration that continues until the end of time.

These short acts of worship have been written to follow the major themes of “The Big Story of God”. There will be 53 themes taking us through a year beginning with Palm Sunday.

In order to accommodate the church’s festivals, you may find that some of the themes don’t run in a chronological order, but where it is possible, they will.

Instructions:

1. Find a place where you can gather together without interruption. You may choose to sit around a table or sit on the floor in a circle.
2. Choose one of you to read out the leader’s words which are in black type. **Everyone** reads the words in **black bolded type**. Instructions are in purple type.
3. This service has a different format from a normal Sunday act of worship in that there will be a number of Bible Reading and “Exploring the Bible” sections. It would probably work best on Maundy Thursday evening.
4. You will be sharing food, so make sure everyone has washed their hands!

Aim of act of worship:

To re-tell the events of the Last Supper up to the arrest of Jesus

What you will need to collect beforehand:

- A copy of the complete act of worship for the person leading and a copy of **Appendix 1** of this act of worship for each person taking part (who is able to read.)
- A way for people to watch YouTube worship videos eg. Smart phone, tablet, laptop...
- A candle that is placed in the centre of the group and a way to light it.
- A Bible.
- Pitta bread and shredded lamb for each person (or some form of bread and meat).
- Glass of red juice for each person (eg. red grape juice, Ribena etc).
- A towel, dressmaker pins or safety pins, small pieces of paper.
- Pieces of paper cut up into 2cm strips, sellotape and pens.
- Colouring sheet (which is free) for everyone downloaded from here:
<https://www.frogandgnome.com/collections/colouring-sheets/products/luke-22v42-colouring-sheet>
- Crayons

“The Last Supper – Maundy Thursday”

Opening Prayer:

(The candle is lit)

We light this candle to remember that Jesus said, *“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them”* (Matthew 18:20)

Lord Jesus, You are welcome here

During our time together we are going to re-tell the events of Jesus’ last supper with His disciples, up until He is arrested.

Songs:

Choose a worship song that you enjoy singing together. Below are some ideas of YouTube songs with lyrics that you can sing along to:

1. “You alone can rescue” (Matt Redman)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UracNSSIfTo>
2. “Light of the world” (Tim Hughes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qhq0kDw0E8c>
3. “Waymaker” (Kidsclub)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0wyotu9Twno>

Opening thought:

When we celebrate a special event, we often do that with a meal with families and friends, where we eat different foods from our normal diet.

- What foods do you especially enjoy eating on your birthday?
- How about at Christmas?

When Jesus was alive He also enjoyed celebrating special events with a meal with His friends.

- One of the special meals that Jesus celebrated with His friends was a festival called “The Passover”
- This was a festival when Jews remembered that God had set them free from slavery in Egypt.
- Every year Jesus and His friends had this special meal together.

Bible Reading 1:

Read the story about Jesus sending His disciples to get the Passover meal ready in **Luke 22:7-16**. Choose one of the following ways to read the Bible passage:

1. One person reads the story out loud.
2. Scroll through the pictures that you will find in the website below, one picture at a time. You will find the words of the story to read at the bottom of each picture:
<http://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/lc-last-supper/> stopping after slide 7.

Activity 1:

Serve out the pitta bread, lamb and juice to everyone.

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For the Passover meal, the Jewish people would have eaten bread made without yeast and lamb, amongst other things, drinking it all down with glasses of red wine, like we are doing now, except that we are drinking red juice.

During the Passover meal, Jesus gave His friends, and us, a way to remember Him.

He took some bread *(Pick up the bread)*

He said thank you to Father God for it. *(Hold up bread and say, "thank you")*

He broke it. *(Break bread in half)*

He then gave it to His disciples saying, *"This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."* (Luke 22:19 NIV) *(Tell everyone to take a piece of bread and eat it)*

Then Jesus:

Took a cup *(Pick up the glass of juice)*

He said thank you to Father God for it. *(Hold up juice and say, "thank you")*

He then gave it to them saying, *"Every one of you drink this. This is my blood which is the new agreement that God makes with his people. This blood is poured out for many to forgive their sins."* (Matthew 26:27-28 New Century Version) *(Tell everyone to take a drink from their glass)*

Exploring the Bible Reading:

Reflecting together

- Which bit of the story did you like best?
- Can you remember what the broken bread and the wine remind Jesus' followers of?
- Do you have any questions about the story?

Responding together

You may like to show the following YouTube "Passover" song. If you have young children, check the video out first that the crucifixion images are suitable for them:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= HCBieuV-QU>

Bible Reading 2:

Read the next part of the story about Jesus washing His disciples' feet from **John 13:1-17**. Choose one of the following ways to read the Bible passage:

1. One person reads the story out loud.
2. Watch a YouTube cartoon of the story here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KmwppHKyif-U>
3. Watch a YouTube acted out presentation of the story here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yRTjb4tYKZ4>

Activity 2:

You will need a towel, dressmaker pins or safety pins, small pieces of paper and pens.

In Jesus' day, people wore sandals and their feet got very dirty.

- Normally before a meal, a servant would go around and wash everybody's feet.

But there were no servants at this Passover meal, so Jesus served His disciples by washing their feet.

- He set them and us an example to serve each other.

I wonder what things we can do to serve other people.

- Let's think of some ideas about the simple things that we can do to:
- Help each other in our home,
- Help other people in our church family, and
- Help other people in our community.

As we have ideas let's write or draw those ideas on pieces of paper, which we will pin to the towel.....our serving towel!

- We will hang up the towel somewhere in the house where we can all see it, and it will remind us to follow the example of Jesus.

When you have finished writing ideas on paper and pinning them onto the towel, you may like to say the following prayer together:

**Lord Jesus You served Your disciples by washing their feet.
 You served us all by giving up Your life on the cross.
 Help us to love like You.
 Help us to give ourselves away to others.
 Fill us with Your Spirit and give us Your strength to serve.
 Amen.**

Song:

Watch and join in with the following song:

The Servant King (Graham Kendrick)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8rh4xEvMVQQ>

Activity 3:

You will need the pieces of paper cut up into 2cm strips, sellotape and pens / felt-tip pens.

During the Passover meal, Jesus told two of His disciples that they were going to do wrong things.

- He told Judas Iscariot that he was going to betray Him. (Matthew 26:21-25)
- He told Peter that he would deny knowing Jesus three times. (Matthew 26:31-35)

As those disciples sinned, so do we.

- Jesus said: *"I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin"* (John 8:34)

As a reminder that sin leads to a type of slavery we are going to create a chain out of paper.

- Let's be quiet for a moment and ask Jesus to show us what things we have done that have made Him sad. PAUSE
- Let's write those things down on our paper chain.....
- one sin for each piece of chain.

When the chain is completed, all hold it and pray.

**Lord Jesus, please forgive us for the wrong things that we have done.
Thank you that You came to set us free from our sin.
Please set us free now. Amen.**

Break up the chain as you remember that Jesus sets us free from sin.

Bible Reading 3:

Read the next part of the story about Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane from Matthew 26:36-46 in one of the following ways:

1. One person reads the story out loud.
2. Watch a YouTube cartoon of the story here (for older children):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=osgzksqnW3I> as far as “arrest him.”
3. Watch a YouTube cartoon of the story here (for younger children):
<https://www.max7.org/en/resource/wild-mark-14-32to38?folder=a1b854e0-b863-4a57-9aee-bfa2fe5352e2>

Prayers:

Give out the colouring sheet and crayons.

Jesus prayed that the “cup of suffering” would be taken away from Him, but then He said He was willing to suffer if it was God’s will to do so.

- Let’s colour in our cup of suffering as beautifully as we can as a way of saying “Thank you” to Jesus for being willing to suffer for us.

Together we’ll pray the Lord’s prayer:

**Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Final Video:

Finish by watching the “Remember me” song from “Friends and Heroes” together. You can find it here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nhFBX5ZSySo>

Blow out the candle.

Appendix 1 – Words for everyone taking part “The Last Supper” – Maundy Thursday

Opening Prayer:

(The candle is lit)

We light this candle to remember that Jesus said, *“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them”* (Matthew 18:20)

Lord Jesus, You are welcome here

Activity 2:

**Lord Jesus You served Your disciples by washing their feet.
You served us all by giving up Your life on the cross.
Help us to love like You.
Help us to give ourselves away to others.
Fill us with Your Spirit and give us Your strength to serve.
Amen.**

Activity 3:

**Lord Jesus, please forgive us for the wrong things that we have done.
Thank you that You came to set us free from our sin.
Please set us free now. Amen.**

Prayers:

**Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
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