

General Church Education



The Last Supper

Luke 18

Lesson 32

Jacob's Ladder Religion Lessons

Level 1: The Lord Is Our Creator

For ages 6-7 years

THE LAST SUPPER

LUKE 18:15-17

After His triumphal entry into Jerusalem the Lord spent five days in Jerusalem teaching and preparing His disciples to better understand the reality of His resurrection and the glory of His ascension to heaven.

Jews had been celebrating the Passover ever since the miraculous exodus from Egypt. By the time the Lord came into the world He needed to establish a more internal way for people to be connected to Him. One of the Lord's final acts in this world was to institute the Holy Supper after eating the Passover feast with His disciples. The Lord commanded us to observe two sacraments: baptism, and the Holy Supper. The bread and wine of the Holy Supper have special meanings in our spiritual life. The bread represents the Lord's love. The wine represents His truth.

IDEA FOR PARENTS & TEACHERS

- The Lord is most fully present in the Holy Supper. The Lord's saving power is available to us when we come to the Holy Supper and ask to have His love take precedence in our life. This is represented by taking communion bread. When we take the communion wine with a genuine affection for the Lord's truth, we make it our own and so are conjoined with the Lord and saved.

FROM THE WRITINGS

The whole of the Lord's redemption is present in the Holy Supper; for where the Lord wholly is, there too is the whole of His redemption. For He is the Redeemer, and so also redemption itself. On this account all those who worthily attend Holy Communion become His redeemed. Because redemption means being freed from hell, linked with the Lord and saved, those benefits are assigned to the person. This happens, not to the extent that the Lord wishes, for His Divine love makes Him wish to assign everything, but to the extent that the person receives them. The person who receives them is redeemed to the degree that he receives them. *See True Christian Religion 717*

Flesh represents good, as does bread, and blood represents truth, as does wine. The Holy Supper was established by the Lord to be the means by which all things of heaven, that is, all things which are the Lord's, might be joined to members of the Church. For in the Holy Supper the flesh or bread is the Divine Good of the Lord's Divine Love towards the whole human race, and a person's love in return to the Lord, while the blood or wine is the Divine Truth emanating from the Divine Good of the Lord's Divine Love, and in turn the person's acceptance of it. *Arcana Coelestia 9393*

THE LAST SUPPER

IMPORTANT IDEAS

The Lord told His disciples to remember Him with the Holy Supper.

The Lord is still present with people in a special way through the Holy Supper.

The Lord prepared for His final victory over the hells.

After the Lord entered Jerusalem as King, He spent four days in the temple teaching about the life that leads to heaven. He also told His disciples many things that helped prepare them for His death and resurrection on Easter morning. On Friday, the day of the Passover celebration, the Lord's disciples began to get ready for the feast. They would eat lamb, a sauce of bitter herbs, unleavened bread, and wine. Unleavened bread is flat because it does not contain yeast.

Listen carefully as we read the story. See if you can hear the part that shows that the Lord knew that Judas, one of His disciples, was going to betray Him. Read Mark 14:17-21. When the disciples asked who would betray Him, the Lord knew who it would be, and said it was the one who was dipping into the bowl of bitter herbs at the same time that He was dipping. This Passover was the last one that the Lord would celebrate with His disciples. That is why it is often called the "Last Supper."

After the Passover feast, the Lord gave His disciples another special meal of celebration. We call this special meal the Holy Supper because the Lord Himself started it. The Lord wanted His disciples to celebrate the Holy Supper after He had risen into heaven. He knew that every time the disciples ate the bread and drank the wine of the Holy Supper, as He had commanded them, He could be close to them. Listen as we read to hear what food and drink were part of the second meal that the Lord ate with His disciples. Read Luke 22:19-20.

Did you hear that this meal was bread and wine? The Lord knew that He could bring His love to His disciples when they ate the bread of the Holy Supper.



He also knew that He could guide them with His truth in a special way when they drank the wine of the Holy Supper. That is why He told them, "Do this in remembrance of Me." Even now, adults take the bread and wine of the Holy Supper as a way of inviting the Lord into their lives. Worship services celebrating the Holy Supper are sometimes called "Communion Services." "Communion" means closeness because the Lord is closely present during Holy Supper.

After the Lord had given the bread and wine to His disciples, He went outside of Jerusalem to the Mount of Olives, which was a hill close to Jerusalem that was planted with olive trees. The Lord went there so that He could pray. He prayed for strength because He knew the hard things that were going to happen. Read Luke 22:39-43.

Did you notice the comforting tenderness of the angel? The angel came from heaven to be with the Lord, "strengthening Him." Soon after the Lord had finished praying, a group of people came to the Mount of Olives. They knew that the Lord was powerful, and that many people loved Him because of His miracles and His wise way of teaching about the life of heaven. Many of these leaders were jealous of the Lord. They hoped to put Him on trial and have Him condemned to death. They thought that they would then have defeated the Lord. These people had been paying attention to the evil spirits who hate the Lord. This is how these evil spirits tried to defeat the Lord. They thought they were winning. The evil spirits didn't understand that they could never win a battle against the Lord!



DISCUSSION

- Have you ever celebrated a holiday with a special meal or dinner? Have you sometimes invited friends to share that meal with you? How do you think the disciples felt at the chance to celebrate the Passover with Jesus who was a friend and teacher? *(Possible answers - happy at the chance to be with Him, excited.)*
- What was served at the Passover feast? *(Lamb, a bitter herb sauce, unleavened bread, and wine.)*
- Which two of these did the Lord use in the Holy Supper that He gave to His disciples? *(Bread and wine.)*
- What makes unleavened bread different from regular bread? *(Unleavened bread has no yeast in it. It is flat.)*
- Why do you think that the Holy Supper service is sometimes called "Communion?" Do you remember what the word "communion" means? *(Communion means closeness. The Lord is close to people who take the Holy Supper bread and wine. He is particularly close with His love and His wise guidance when people truly ask the Lord to help them live a life leading to heaven.)*
- Why did some people want to hurt the Lord? *(Answers might include - They were jealous of His popularity and power. They paid attention to evil spirits instead of the Lord's wise teachings.)*



THE LAST SUPPER | Activities

Recitation

- Learn the recitation. Note: This longer recitation is used for all four Easter lessons. Give child(ren) as much help as they need to say the recitation, and shorten it if necessary.

Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it. His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men.

But the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead, and indeed He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him. Behold, I have told you."

So they went out quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to bring His disciples word.

Matthew 28:1-8

When the recitation has been learned, give children the recitation picture on the last page of this lesson, and a sticker, e.g. a star, to decorate it.



Song

- Morn of Joy and Morn of Praise!
Listen at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/song-morn-of-joy-and-morn-of-praise/>

Video

- The Last Supper (story from the Word)
Watch at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/video-the-last-supper/>

Projects

- The Last Supper Project
- Make Holy Supper Bread (recipe included)
- Picture to color

The Last Supper Project

This project helps children learn about the last supper the Lord had with His disciples. During the feast He established a new feast, which we call the Holy Supper.

Supplies needed

- 1 piece green paper approx. 9"x12" (23cm x 30cm)
- 1 piece gold paper (or silver foil) approx. 5"x8½" (12cm x 21cm)
- 1 piece brown paper approx. 4"x6" (10cm x 15cm)
- 1 lined paper strip
- pencil
- scissors
- glue

Directions

1. Using a pencil, draw a goblet or fancy cup shape on the gold paper. Cut it out and glue it to the green paper, as shown below.
2. Draw a round loaf of flat bread on the brown paper. Cut it out and glue it to the green paper also.
3. Use the lined paper strip to write or dictate a sentence about this lesson. Glue it to the bottom of the page. Write a title, such as "Holy Supper," near the top of the page.
4. The picture shows the two important things the Lord told His disciples to have in the Holy Supper. The Holy Supper is a sign of the Christian Church and all those who follow the Lord Jesus Christ.



Handwriting practice lines consisting of four sets of horizontal lines. Each set includes a solid top line, a dashed midline, a solid baseline, and a thick solid bottom line.

Make Holy Supper Bread

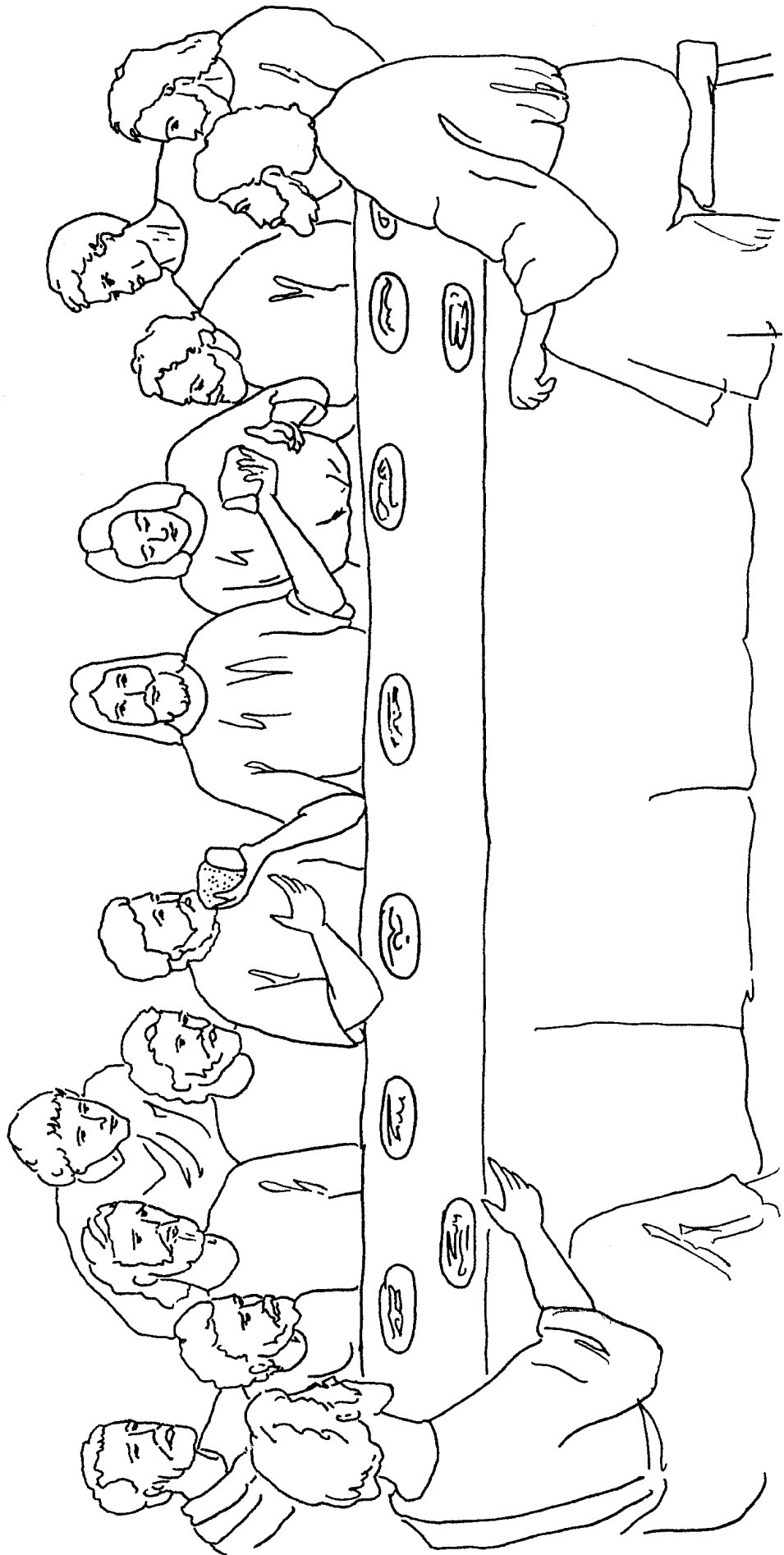
Hint: To make holy supper bread that has a nice crispy texture cool the ingredients in the refrigerator before starting, and thoroughly combine the dry ingredients and oil before adding water.

Ingredients

- 1 cup whole wheat flour
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 3 tablespoons ice cold water

Directions

1. Mix the flour and salt together.
2. Add olive oil and mix with pastry blender or a fork.
3. Sprinkle water over the mixture and blend together with a spoon.
4. Turn out onto waxed paper and gently mold the dough into a ball shape.
5. Roll out dough to about $\frac{1}{4}$ " (0.5cm) thick. Using a cookie cutter, cut into 2 large circles.
6. Place on baking sheet and bake at 350° for about 12 minutes until slightly browned.



Lessons 31, 32, 33, 34

