

CHAPTER 7

HOLY COMMUNION: REMEMBERING JESUS

Refer to **pg 79** in the workbook

Summary

Remembering - that is the word when it comes to Holy Communion. Here we remember Jesus' death and resurrection. The sacrament of Holy Communion is linked spiritually to the Passover during the time of the Exodus and the Last Supper led by Jesus just before His crucifixion.

The practical part guides the learner to write out his or her own testimony of what Jesus has done in his or her life.

To get ready

1. Extra Bibles, pens and pencils
2. Ruled paper for rough copies of testimony
3. Photocopies of play 'One Night in Egypt' on page 14 and 15
4. Photocopies of play 'One Evening in Jerusalem' on page 16
5. Memory verse 1 Corinthians 11:26

Teacher's Guide

Below are some squares that the learners can fill with their own names. You may like to go through all of them and ask for other suggestions that they may have before they identify the ones that best describe themselves. Remind them that they may write their names on more than one square.

Refer to **pg 80** in the workbook

1. Let the learners look up 1 Thessalonians 4:14 and fill up the missing words in the scroll.

1 Thessalonians 4:14
We believe that Jesus died
and rose again.

Here you can help the learners recall what Jesus did as given in chapter 3. Quickly run through some of the things Jesus did.

Ask them, 'Which do you think is the most important?' Lead your learners' discussion to the death of Jesus for our sins.

You might want to introduce the word '*resurrection*' by means of a card or by writing the word on the board so as to get the spelling right.

Jesus wants us to remember his death and his rising again or resurrection .

2. You will find the missing words of the blanks in the verses below listed in order from the cryptogram below.

The words are in orderand continued in the next page

received
passed
night
bread
broke
body

Refer to **pg 81** in the workbook

Continued here....

cup
blood
drink
death

Refer to **pg 82** in the workbook

3. The play 'One Night in Egypt' can be found at the end of this chapter, pages 14 and 15. Involve everyone. The characters are given as Father, Mother, Child 1, Child 2 etc. This is to give flexibility according to the number of learners in your class. If the number is small, then some of the learners will take dual roles e.g. Child 1 is also Child 4.

There is a list of Hebrew names for boys and girls which you can assign to your learners to give a really Jewish flavor to the whole play.

The scene is a typical Jewish home in ancient Egypt. The father and mother have been given detailed instructions by the man of God, Moses, as to what they must do as a family to preserve their own lives. The day has finally come.

Have the learners sit down in a circle with the 'Father' and 'Mother' at a strategic point preparing to give very important instructions. All the other learners are children in the play.

Try to capture the atmosphere of expectancy and tension. You may even darken the room and have a few torchlights in the center covered with glass paper to give the impression of a lighted stove.

After the play, lead the discussion to emphasize the meaning of the Passover, the need for a sacrificial lamb, and the protection accorded by the blood.

Encourage the learners to take down some notes of their own on the following page.

Refer to **pg 83** in the workbook

4. This second portion is read in turns from the narrative in Mark 14:12-26. The passage is given at the end of the chapter on page 16. It is rearranged to give it a 'play' format with a narrator and different players. You can photocopy this and give each learner a separate sheet to read from.

Assign the different characters to different learners. The rest are to be attentive disciples at the table. Encourage them to be involved by their facial expressions and actions even as they listen to the conversation between Jesus and the other disciples.

It is 'One Evening in Jerusalem'. See page 16 at end of this chapter.

Refer to **pg 84** in the workbook

5. Emphasize the fact that Jesus was explaining that He will be the sacrificial lamb and that His blood will deliver all human beings from sin.

Explain that what God intended to do all the time was Jesus' own sacrifice but God ordered the continual celebration of the Passover among the Jews to let them look forward to what Jesus was going to accomplish much later on. You might call it a sort of 'rehearsal' (the word is 'type') or 'representation' of the real thing which is Jesus' great sacrifice.

Here are the answers to the quiz.

Before, the people sacrificed a **lamb** .

Now, the sacrifice was **Jesus** .

Before, the people ate the meat of the **lamb**.

Now, we eat the **bread** as symbolizing Jesus' **body** .

Before, the people were saved from death by the **blood** on top of the door.

Now, we are all saved from death by the **blood** of Jesus on the cross.

Refer to **pg 85** in the workbook

The quiz is continued on this page.

Before, God delivered the people from **slavery** .

Now, God delivered all of us from **sin** .

Before, God took his people out to a new **land** .

Now, God will take us into a new **life** .

6. Do encourage the use of Scriptures by asking them to make the necessary reference.

You might like to explain the verses a little bit more if your learners find it difficult to understand them.

1 Corinthians 11:24.

We practise Holy Communion to **remember** what Jesus did.

1 Corinthians 11:24

And when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me."

1 Corinthians 11:26

In having Holy Communion we are telling others about what Jesus did until He **comes** again.

1 Corinthians 11:26

For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Together with the idea of remembrance of this past event of the cross, also let the learners be aware of the future aspect of Holy Communion as we all look forward to the time when Jesus returns and eat this meal together with all of us as He has promised in Mark 14: 25.

Mark 14:25

"I tell you the truth, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it anew in the kingdom of God."

1 Corinthians 11:28

We are to **examine** ourselves for sins against others when we come for Holy Communion.

1 Corinthians 11:28

A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup.

The person who participates in the Communion must also examine himself or herself because he or she sees the whole family of God for whom Jesus has died. We are to come to the communion rail in clear conscience.

Refer to **pg 85** in the workbook (continued)

1 Corinthians 10:17

During Holy Communion, we are reminded of our unity .

1 Corinthians 10:17

Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.

There is also the idea of unity in that there is only one loaf. For most congregations that use separate wafers, the nature of the original meal instituted by Jesus must be emphasized.

Sacraments (Baptism and Holy Communion) are means of grace whereby the participant is blessed by virtue of his or her involvement. It is not merely a public ritual but there is real blessing in its participation.

Refer to **pg 86** in the workbook

1. The practical of this chapter is to write out one's personal testimony. Have paper ready for both the rough work and the final draft.

Tell the learners to keep to not more than 150 words.

Go section by section.

Refer to **pg 87** in the workbook

The first section is the *'before'* part. Ask the learners questions like *'What was I like before I became a Christian?', 'Did I have a bad temper, a bad habit that cannot go away?', 'Were there things I was afraid of?', 'Was there a difficult situation?'*. Let them spend some time writing this out. Use from 40 to 50 words.

Refer to **pg 88** in the workbook

The next section is the *'transition'* or *'then something happened'* period. Ask questions like *'Did I go to a meeting?'*, *'Did I read a verse from the Bible?'*, *'Did a friend tell me about Jesus?'*, *'How did I respond?'*. Here use about 40 to 50 words.

Refer to **pg 89** in the workbook

Then the final part is the *'after'* portion. Ask questions like *'How did I feel after that?'*, *'How did Jesus help me overcome my problems?'*, *'What am I like now because of Jesus?'*. This last part should have about another 50 words.

A few drafts may be needed to really streamline the testimony. Let them try speaking it out to each other. Get them to really work at it till they can say it out in about 5 to 10 minutes. You may need to spend some time through the week to work further with some of your learners.

Ask them to look out for a friend who is not a Christian and just share their own testimony with them at an appropriate time. They can report back the next time you meet.

Refer to **pg 90** in the workbook

3. Do not forget the memory verse for the lesson. It is 1 Corinthians 11:26.

1 Corinthians 11:26

For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Let the learners do the summary on their own, helping only when necessary.

TODAY I LEARNED ...

- 1 that Jesus wants us to remember His death and resurrection
- 2 that Jesus gave new meaning to an old Hebrew celebration called the Passover which was first practised when God delivered the Jews from slavery in Egypt
- 3 that Jesus showed that His sacrifice saves us from our sins
- 4 that Holy Communion is remembering what Jesus did
- 5 that Holy Communion looks forward to the time when Jesus returns

Refer to **pg 91** in the workbook

- 6 that I have to **examine** my own life whenever I take part in Holy Communion
- 7 that Holy Communion reminds us of our **unity** with other people in the Church

AND I LEARNED HOW

to **write** out my personal **testimony** of how I came to trust in the Lord Jesus as my Savior and Lord

Script for play 'One Night in Egypt' (page 4 above)

ONE NIGHT IN EGYPT **A Passover Play**

The scene is the home of Manasseh (father) and Milcah (mother), his wife. It is night. They have been given instructions by Moses, the man of God of what they must do to preserve their lives because God is going to send a terrible, final plague on the land.

They have called up all their children.

(Depending on the number of learners in your class and their gender, assign names accordingly from the list below. There are 12 names for boys and 12 for girls.)

Names of Boys

Gershon
Gemalli
Hori
Igal
Ithamar
Kohath
Maki
Merari
Nadab
Palti
Shammua
Shimei

Names of Girls

Adah
Deborah
Dinah
Hoglah
Keturah
Mahlah
Naomi
Rachel
Ruth
Tirzah
Zillah
Zipporah

- Father: Now tonight is a very important night. I have told you before what we have to do.
- Child 1: Yes, Abba. We have to sacrifice the lamb.
- Mother: Yes, your father has already done that.
- Child 2: I am so glad we did not take Baruch. He is my pet lamb.
- Child 3: We cannot take Baruch because Baruch is blind in one eye. It must be a year-old male without any defect.
- Child 4: And then we have to do something with the blood?
- Father: Yes, we have to brush the blood on the sides and tops of the doorframe.
- Child 5: Will the other families be doing this also?
- Mother: Yes, every Hebrew family will be doing it.
- Child 6: Please don't let me do it! I am scared of blood.
- Father: It is all right. I will do it. (brushes blood onto the door posts)

- Child 7: Why are we doing this, Abba?
- Father: Because our God is going to judge the Egyptians. The angel of death will pass over Egypt on that night and kill the first born of every living being. When the blood is there, he will pass over our house.
- Child 8: Then we will be safe?
- Child 9: I am scared.
- Mother: Yes, we will all be safe. God has promised that.
- Father: Now we shall roast the meat of the lamb and eat it with bitter herbs.
- Child 10: Urgh! It will taste horrible.
- Father: And we shall only have bread without yeast.
- Child 11: I have already made that, Abba.
- Mother: That's very good. Thank you.
- Father: And we all have to dress all ready to leave tonight. I want no delays when you are eating.
- Child 11: Yes, Abba. We are all dressed.
- Child 12: It is hot dressed up like this.
- Mother: These are God's instructions. We must follow them carefully.
- There is a wailing sound from outside rising in volume.
- Child 13: What is that sound?
- Child 14: Sounds like people crying.
- Child 15: What is happening?
- Mother: The angel of death has begun his work. Quick, let us eat this meal.
- Father: We must be ready to move out of Egypt to go to the land that God is going to show us.
- Every child: Good, let us eat together.

END

Script for play 'One Evening in Jerusalem (page 5 above)

ONE EVENING IN JERUSALEM
Mark 14:12-26

Narrator 1: On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus' disciples asked him

Two disciples: Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

Narrator 1: So he sent two of his disciples, telling them,

Jesus: Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. Say to the owner of the house he enters, 'The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large upper room, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.

Narrator 2: The disciples left, went into the city and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover. When evening came, Jesus arrived with the Twelve. While they were reclining at the table eating, he said,

Jesus: I tell you the truth, one of you will betray me--one who is eating with me.

Narrator 3: They were saddened, and one by one they said to him

Disciples take turns to say it: Surely not I? (or Is it I?)

Jesus: It is one of the Twelve, one who dips bread into the bowl with me. The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born."

Narrator 3: While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

Jesus: Take it; this is my body.

Narrator 4: Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, and they all drank from it.

Jesus: This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. I tell you the truth, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it anew in the kingdom of God.

Narrator 4: When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

END