



Easter Tales Assembly 2

The Last Supper prep page

Assembly 2

The Last Supper (Chapters 4,5,6)

Context

This second assembly/lesson is about **The Terrible Plan and Judas' betrayal, Jesus washing everyone's feet, Communion and The Last Supper**

Focus

Changing sides, Serving one another, Holy Communion

Preparation

Films 4, 5 & 6 from Tales From The Miracle Book's 'Easter Tales'

Possible additional things to add

- **PowerPoint Presentation**
- **If you choose to do the game illustration at the start (optional) then you need a soft ball/ rolled up school jumper and 2 hoops (or mark our two circles with either tape or beanbags)**
- **A Kings Crown and Robe and a chair (to be a throne)**
- **The Bible reading** could be done by some pupils if you have it printed out.
- **Meditation/ prayer music**
- **Entrance/ exit music**

NB: Teacher/presenter script is in black bold type.

The assembly runs at approximately 27 mins

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Illustration: Changing sides (4 mins)

You will need two hoops/or two circles and a ball/ school jumper for this illustration game

Now I need 4 volunteers to play a game.

Choose your 4 volunteers.

Can you see the two hoops/circles on the floor? The aim of the game is to get this ball (or jumper) to your side of the hall and into the hoop by throwing and catching to one another but not moving your feet (just like netball).

Now I'm going to whisper in your ears which side you're on. Put 2 people on each team so that the game could be won by either side. In 3 of the volunteer's ears whisper which team they're on, but for the 4th volunteer whisper which side they're on BUT also tell them that they will change sides and play with the other team when you give them a signal (like clapping your hands or put your thumbs in the air.)

OK. This team (choose two on the same side) **will be shooting this way,** and **this team** (choose the other two on the same side) **will be shooting in this direction. You score a goal or a point if your team gets the ball into the hoop on your side and the team with the most points wins!**

We'll throw to begin. Throw the ball/jumper into the air to see who catches it.

After a few 'goals' have been scored by getting the ball/jumper into the hoop then use your code to get one of the volunteers to change sides. The team that now has the one volunteer in will be very unlikely to win or move really. Let the game go on for a couple of goals then stop everyone.

Hang on! What's going on here? (ask the person who's lost their team member). **Hmm. That doesn't seem very fair does it?**

How do you think ____ (person who's lost team member) ____ **might be feeling?**

Ideas: Let down, betrayed, confused, that it's unfair

How do you think ____ (person who changed sides) ____ **might be feeling?**

Ideas: they didn't mind, they still won, maybe guilty or bad that ____ couldn't win?

It's pretty unfair to change teams halfway through isn't it?

Let's look at someone who changed teams from Jesus' team to the pharisees team by watching our next film.

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We began our Easter assembly yesterday introducing Jesus and we started our journey through Holy Week by looking at Palm Sunday. Let's look at what happened next by playing our next film.

The Terrible Plan Chapter 4 (4 mins)

Teaching: Betrayal (2 mins)

So Judas joins Jesus' enemies.

Wait a minute!! - that's a big deal! Judas was Jesus' friend.

Judas had travelled around with him, he'd known him for a long time.

Jesus had chosen him to be one of his 12 most trusted friends.

He shared his secrets. Judas had seen Jesus do miracles.

He'd heard him talk about wanting to make the world a kinder & more loving place.

But Judas left Jesus.

He chose not to follow him anymore. He decided that Jesus was not the sort of person he wanted in charge of his life. Why might Judas have made that choice?

Ideas

He didn't want to follow Jesus anymore, he wanted money, he didn't like Jesus' teaching

The country of Israel (where Jesus was living) at that time had been taken over by Roman soldiers and Judas thought Jesus was going to free everyone from the Romans. Instead Jesus was more interested in what was going on in peoples hearts. Judas didn't see that as important. He didn't understand what Jesus was there to do.

Does anyone know what the word 'Betray' means?

To give over to an enemy, to be unfaithful - for example a friend betrayed our trust by telling a secret.

Do you remember our game at the start? Betrayal is like playing a game of football and swapping sides in the middle of the match! Judas changed sides.

Let's look at the next part of the story...

The Last Supper (Part 1) Chapter 5 (4 mins)

OR

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Bible Reading (2 mins)

John 13:1-9 & 14-17

Before the Passover celebration, Jesus knew that his hour had come to leave this world and return to his Father. He had loved his disciples during his ministry on earth, and now he loved them to the very end.

It was time for supper, and the devil had already prompted Judas, son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. Jesus knew that the Father had given him authority over everything and that he had come from God and would return to God. So he got up from the table, took off his robe, wrapped a towel around his waist, and poured water into a basin. Then he began to wash the disciples' feet, drying them with the towel he had around him.



When Jesus came to Simon Peter, Peter said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

Jesus replied, "You don't understand now what I am doing, but someday you will."

"No," Peter protested, "you will never ever wash my feet!"

Jesus replied, "Unless I wash you, you won't belong to me."

Simon Peter exclaimed, "Then wash my hands and head as well, Lord, not just my feet!"

(Jesus said)... "Since I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each other's feet. I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you. I tell you the truth, slaves are not greater than their master. Nor is the messenger more important than the one who sends the message. Now that you know these things, God will bless you for doing them."

John 13:1- 9 & 14-17 New Living Translation

Teaching: The Passover (1 or 2 mins)



So Jesus and his disciples had gathered to have a celebration dinner. Does anyone remember what they were going to celebrate?

Wait to see if anyone can remember the word 'Passover'

Jewish people still celebrate the Passover today and have a special meal with symbolic foods.

Does anyone know what story or event is celebrated at the passover?

Ideas. It's from the story of Moses asking Pharaoh to set his people free.

You don't need to include this part if you don't have time!

The Passover story

The Israelites, (God's people), were slaves to the Egyptians. Even though Moses went to Pharaoh to ask for their freedom, Pharaoh refused to let them go. God sent plagues to the Egyptians- but Pharaoh still refused to let them go until the last - the tenth- plague. Moses warned Pharaoh that if he didn't free the Israelites then the first born in each Egyptian family and of each animal would die. The Angel of death *passed over* (this is where the word passover comes from) the Israelites houses and their first born were saved. Then Pharaoh finally gave in, and set all the Israelites free.

More details can be found on the plagues and Passover in Exodus 11&12 in the Bible.

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Illustration: Kings & Feet (3 mins)

KINGS

Let's think about something a bit different now.

In your mind picture or imagine a king. Have you got an image in your mind?

Imagine what kind of clothes he is wearing.

Imagine where your king might live. Imagine what it might look like.

Imagine how he travels to get from place to place.

Imagine whether he has servants, and if so how many...



I now need a volunteer to come up and be our king.

Choose someone

If you have props then give them to them

Now sit on your chair (I mean throne!). OK. I now need some servants.

Choose about 6 volunteers and arrange them in frozen positions around the king so they can serve him.

Maybe a butler (King... what's your favourite drink?), a personal chef (what's your favourite food?) some guards (who looks big and strong?) a chauffeur (who's good at driving!), an accountant (who's good at maths to look after all his money).

This king is pretty important isn't he? I imagine he'd be the most important person in any room.

In the Bible Jesus was called 'King of the Jews'.

But Jesus was a different sort of king. He didn't wear robes or a crown.

Take off the crown and robe.

Or have lots of money. And didn't seem to act in the way that important people normally act. He didn't have servants. He even arrived in Jerusalem on the back of a donkey! Not very impressive!

Jesus was always turning things upside down & back to front!

FEET

At the time of The Last Supper everyone wore sandals on their feet.

And at that time there were lots of animals and dirt in the streets and their feet would have been very stinky and smelly indeed!

Before every meal a servant would wash everyone's feet. It was the job of the lowest servant because it was the worst job to have.

Jesus' disciples must have been so surprised that Jesus, the most important person, chose to do this.



What do you think Jesus was teaching his disciples?

Ideas- To serve and help each

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Now let's see what happens later on at 'The Last Supper'



The Last Supper (Part 2) Chapter 6 Film (4 mins)



Feelings/Imagine (1 min)

It must have been a big day for Jesus' friends. Everything had been going so well. They had a wonderful best friend: someone who was kind & loving, someone who could do the most amazing things. They'd had the most extraordinary adventures together over the last 3 years. The crowds had cheered as they'd arrived in Jerusalem, but now Jesus was going. And they didn't know if they were ever going to see him again.

How do you think the disciples might have been feeling when Jesus told them he was leaving?

Ideas- sad, confused, upset, worried, fearful, shocked, angry, surprised



Teaching: Holy Communion & Maundy Thursday (2 mins)

In Holy Week- the week leading up to Easter, The Last Supper was shared on the Thursday of that week. Many Christians call this day 'Maundy Thursday' or 'Holy Thursday'. The word Maundy comes from a latin word which means 'command' which refers to the instructions Jesus gave his disciples at the Last Supper.

In the book of Luke, in the Bible, which records Jesus' Last Supper, Jesus said...

"This bread is my body that I am giving for you. Do this to remember me." In the same way, after supper, Jesus took the cup and said, "This cup shows the new agreement that God makes with his people. This new agreement begins with my blood which is poured out for you."

In churches today Christians still remember Jesus sharing the bread and wine by taking bread and wine together too. They call it 'Communion' or 'Holy Communion' and as they share this bread and wine they think about Jesus dying on a cross and the special meaning behind why he died.



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As we have a time of reflection (or prayer), have a think about Jesus' example of serving his followers. And think how you could serve your friends, teachers and parents. Think about how you could do this.



Christian Prayer (1 min)

Let's pray.....

We think about The Last Supper and what it might have felt like to be there.

Thank You, Jesus, for your example of washing your disciples feet and serving them.

Help us to think of ways we can serve and help everyone around us.

Thank you for giving us a special way to remember You through taking communion by sharing bread and wine.

Thank You for Your wonderful example.

Amen

Exit music

OR



Reflection (1 min)

We think about The Last Supper and what it might have felt like to be there.

We think of the special way Christians remember Jesus through taking communion and sharing bread and wine.

**We think of Jesus' example of washing his disciples feet and serving them.
Let us think of ways we can serve and help everyone around us**

Exit music