

The Last Supper

The Last Supper	1
Scene Summary	1
Scripture	1
Players	2
Special Props.....	2
Script - The Last Supper	3
Supplemental Information	5
Reflection questions.....	5

Scene Summary

The last supper presents the Bible account of how Jesus celebrated the Passover with His disciples shortly before His death. Scenes include: Jesus talking with His disciples...Peter and John on their way to the city...they enter Jerusalem...they find the man Jesus told them and they follow him...Jesus and the disciples at the table...Jesus foretells His death...He serves the bread and wine...He tells of His accuser...the disciples question themselves and wonder who the man is...Jesus indicates Judas...Judas leaves...Jesus comforts the disciples.

Scripture

(Mat 26:20-30 NIV) When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve. {21} And while they were eating, he said, "I tell you the truth, one of you will betray me." {22} They were very sad and began to say to him one after the other, "Surely not I, Lord?" {23} Jesus replied, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. {24} 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." {25} Then Judas, the one who would betray him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" Jesus answered, "Yes, it is you." {26} While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body." {27} Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. {28} This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. {29} I tell you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it anew with you in my Father's kingdom." {30} When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

(Luke 22:7-23 NIV) Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. {8} Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover." {9} "Where do you want us to prepare for it?" they asked. {10} He replied, "As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters, {11} and say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' {12} He will show you a large upper room, all furnished. Make preparations there." {13} They left and found things just as Jesus had told them.

So they prepared the Passover. {14} When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. {15} And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. {16} For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God." {17} After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. {18} For I tell you I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." {19} And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." {20} In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you. {21} But the hand of him who is going to betray me is with mine on the table. {22} The Son of Man will go as it has been decreed, but woe to that man who betrays him." {23} They began to question among themselves which of them it might be who would do this.

(John 13:21-30 NIV) After he had said this, Jesus was troubled in spirit and testified, "I tell you the truth, one of you is going to betray me." {22} His disciples stared at one another, at a loss to know which of them he meant. {23} One of them, the disciple whom Jesus loved, was reclining next to him. {24} Simon Peter motioned to this disciple and said, "Ask him which one he means." {25} Leaning back against Jesus, he asked him, "Lord, who is it?" {26} Jesus answered, "It is the one to whom I will give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish." Then, dipping the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, son of Simon. {27} As soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered into him. "What you are about to do, do quickly," Jesus told him, {28} but no one at the meal understood why Jesus said this to him. {29} Since Judas had charge of the money, some thought Jesus was telling him to buy what was needed for the Feast, or to give something to the poor. {30} As soon as Judas had taken the bread, he went out. And it was night.

Scripture quotations marked (NIV) are taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®. NIV®. Copyright©1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved.

Players

- **Narrator** – The play’s “catechist” or teacher should be a good reader with a clear voice.
- **Jesus** – God’s One and Only Son
- **John** – Disciple with an important speaking role.
- **Peter** – Disciple of Jesus, also with an important speaking role.
- **Judas** – The disciple that betrayed Jesus.
- **Disciples** – Multiple people can be disciples.
- **Person** – The one who carries the water jug

Special Props

- Normal items from the prop box such as cloaks, veils, robes and headdresses.
- Water Jug.

Script - The Last Supper

[Scenes: Outside Jerusalem, on the road, Jesus with his disciples. On the road.]

Narrator: Jesus and His disciples were not far from Jerusalem.

Jesus: Today is a special day. Peter and John, would you please make arrangements for our special Passover meal?

Peter: Yes, but where shall we find a place?

Jesus: Go to towards Jerusalem, near the gate you will find a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him. When he goes into the house, tell the owner that I have sent you and ask him to show you the room where we can eat together.

Peter: We won't have any trouble finding the right man.

John: [laughingly] Not many men would be carrying a water jug. That is women's work.

Narrator: As the men walked towards the city, they thought about the Passover feast. They knew that the first Passover meal had been eaten hundreds of years earlier, when the Jews were slaves in Egypt. God wanted them to keep the feast each year to remind them that He had saved the lives of their oldest sons.

Peter: [pointing] Look John, there's our man.

John: Now all we have to do is to follow him as Jesus told us to do.

[Scene: The upper room.]

Narrator: When the owner of the house showed Peter and John the large upper room, the men arranged for the supper. When the feast was ready, Jesus and the other disciples arrived.

Jesus: This will be my last Passover with you. Soon, I shall suffer and give up my life for you.

Narrator: Jesus took the cup and blessed it.

Jesus: Here, pass this cup around and each of you drink from it. I shall not drink it again until God's kingdom comes.

Narrator: Jesus thanked God for the bread, then broke it into pieces and gave it to each of the disciples.

Jesus: Let this bread be a reminder for you of my body that will be given for you.

Jesus: The one who will betray me to my enemies is here, at this very table.

[The disciples speak among themselves “could it be me?” “What does he mean,” “Who is it?”, “Lord, is it me?”]

Peter: Ask Jesus who the man is.

John: [nodding to Peter, then turning towards Jesus] Lord, who is the man?

Jesus: It is the one I give this bread, dipped in herb sauce.

Narrator: John and Peter watched as Jesus dipped the bread into the sauce and handed it to Judas, the treasure of the group.

Jesus: Go quickly Judas, and do what you are going to do.

Judas: [Looking at Jesus carefully, then picking up his bag, he hurries out the door]

Narrator: Sadly, Jesus watched him go out into the night.

[The disciples talk among themselves: “Where is Judas going?” Why is he leaving early?” “Maybe he is going to buy something or give the money to the poor.” “This is strange.”]

Jesus: I will be with you only a little while longer. Before I go, I want to give you a new commandment. Love one another, as I have loved you. Soon I will go to prepare a special place for you, where you will live with me forever.

Jesus: [rises from the table] Come, let us go out to the Mount of Olives.

The End

Supplemental Information

Many Jews throughout the world today still celebrate the Passover feast. The festival is held for eight days in March or April each year. Ceremonial dinners, called *seders*, are served on the first and second evenings of Passover. Special foods are eaten, which are cooked and served in special pots and dishes used only during the Passover each year.

The only bread that can be eaten during Passover is unleavened. Since it has no yeast to make it rise, the bread is thin and hard and something like crackers, but without salt.

During the *seder*, the father reads the story of how God helped Moses to lead the Hebrews out of the land of Egypt. Then the people thank God for His loving protection.

The seven-branched candlestick is called a *menorah*. Its shape is similar to the large golden candlestick that stood in the Tabernacle in the wilderness.

Reflection questions

- Jesus reminded His disciples that it was the day to eat the special Passover meal. Can you tell why the Jews celebrate the Passover feast?
- Jesus gave the men some strange directions to find a special house in Jerusalem. What did He tell Peter and John?
- As the two men walked along, perhaps they thought about all they had heard about the first Passover. What can you tell about the first Passover meal?
- The disciples knew that they had found the right man. Why was it unusual to see a man carrying a water jug?
- As soon as the men were seated at the table, Jesus told the disciples some startling news. What was it?
- What did the disciples think? Did they know who would do such a terrible thing?
- Peter asked John a question. What was it?
- John asked Jesus who would betray Him. What did Jesus answer?
- When Jesus gave the bread to Judas, how do you think he felt? How do you think Jesus felt towards Judas?
- When Judas left, what did the disciples think he was going to do?
- Many hundreds of years earlier, God had given Moses 10 special Commandments for the people. Now Jesus gave the disciples a new commandment. What was it? Do you think it is a good commandment to follow today? Why?