

The Passover

Last Week ...

Nine Icky Plagues

End of 9th Plague

- Pharaoh tries one last _____
- It fails because Moses won't budge
- Pharaoh is frustrated by the situation
 - Won't let the Israelites go
 - Cuts off diplomatic relations

Moses Lays It In

- Every First _____ Will Die in Egypt
- All will be well in Israelite settlements
- Then, you will know that God likes us better

Two Distinct Feasts

The Instructions for two feasts Intertwined for history

The Passover Feast

These are the Instructions for the Meal

- Pick out a year-old male lamb
- Care for it closely for four days
- Slaughter at dusk and _____ whole
- Paint your front doorway with blood
Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs. Exodus 12:7

Flat bread and a salad make it a meal

- If your family is small, make it a block party
- Sit down to dinner with your traveling clothes on – staff, sandals, coat
- Eat in a hurry
- Whatever is left over must be burned before dawn
- God will strike down every first born male not protected by the blood of the lamb

Why the First Born Male?

- The perpetuator of the blood line,
- Assuring the next generation
- Strikes every _____ evenly

Meaning of Passover

- Same word translated other places as “Shield”
- God is not _____ watching, but actively protecting and defending

What's the Point?

- The blood of the lamb will save you
- Live this life prepared to go wherever God leads

KEY: negotiation, Born, BBQ, family, passively, house, yes, we

Feast of the Unleavened Bread

- **The First Day**
 - Begins the morning after Passover
 - Clean _____ of every bit of yeast
 - Hold a sacred assembly
- **Do not eat Yeast for Seven Days**
- **Seventh Day**
 - Hold another sacred assembly and eat!

Why?

And when your children ask you, 'What does this ceremony mean to you?' then tell them, 'It is the Passover sacrifice to the LORD, who passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt and spared our homes when he struck down the Egyptians.'

Exodus 12:26-27

What's the Point?

- Being prepared takes preparation!
- Sometimes in life, you just don't have time to let the dough in your life rise.

What was the Reaction?

- Then the people bowed down and worshipped. ^{12:27}
- The Israelites did just what the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron. ^{12:28}
 - All of them? _____!
 - They came a long way from grumbling about having to get their own straw to make bricks!

What we learn

- God is willing to bring us along step by step
- God will prepare us, but _____ must be ready
 - Don't boil meat! It takes too long
 - Don't let bread rise! We gotta go!

So, are you ready?

Fun Passover Fact

Ever wonder why Easter is never on the same week from year to year?

Easter always seems to move around a bit, but this year it is the earliest date it has been in over 100 years. Why is that?

Well, it all comes from this passage of scripture, really.

"This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. 3 Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household.

Exodus 12:2-3

God changes the whole Jewish calendar here. It is a mixture of a solar and lunar calendar.

- Passover is celebrated in the first month of the year on the Jewish calendar.
- The first month starts on the first new moon after the spring equinox.
- For the Jews, Passover is celebrated on the 14th day of the month (half way through the 28 day moon cycle, that makes it a full moon).
- For Christians, Easter is always Sunday after the 14th day of the new year, thereby making Passover the Thursday before Easter Sunday, aligning it with the way it worked for Jesus the year he was crucified and resurrected.

There. That should clear things up. Don't you feel better knowing?