



Remember the Cross

SUPPLIES Needed



TO PRINT:

- Large Memory Verse to hold up (1 copy)*
- “Communion Bread and Wine” graphic or real elements to show the students
- Comparison Activity Sheet (one for each child)

TO GATHER:

- Hymnal/lyrics for songs*
(Optional: guitar or music to sing along with)
- Basket for offering*

OPTIONAL:

- Kid’s Activity Sheet (1 copy/child)
- Elements of Worship Icons*
(Found in the introduction section.)

*These items will be needed every week.

LEADER’S Review

Through the sacraments, the Holy Spirit focuses our faith on who Jesus is and what He has done for us. In the Lord’s Supper, we remember Jesus offered His body and poured out His blood on the cross as a sacrifice to bring His people back to God. The words “Let my people go” were taught to the children as God’s message to Pharaoh. Those words are magnified on the cross.

Jesus’s body and His blood are the price paid for our freedom. The Lord’s Supper is a sign we repeat often. Each time a believer partakes of the Lord’s Supper, he is reminded that Christ’s sacrifice was for him personally. Remember this as you prepare to teach the children. The Heidelberg Catechism tells us that “by the holy sacraments [God] confirms our entire salvation rests on Christ’s own sacrifice on the cross.” If our entire salvation rests on Christ’s one sacrifice, we know our salvation is certain and sure forever.

We have a visible seal in the celebration of the Lord’s Supper that authenticates all Christ has done. Like the king’s seal on an official document, the sacraments are visible proof that all we need has been done for us—once and forever.

*He who washed us with His blood,
Has secured our way to God.
– “Let Us Love, and Sing, and Wonder”*



THE Lesson

Call to Worship

Sing the first verse of “Holy, Holy, Holy.” (1 minute)

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Praise

Use this time to teach the hymn below. It will be this month’s praise song. There are hand motions you can teach as well. (If you only teach one verse for the month, teach verse 4.) An alternative song to use this month is “Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder,” with verse 4 being the one to highlight. (5 minutes)

- “Amazing Grace”

Tithes and Offerings

Have the children sing “Take My Life, and Let It Be” as they pass around the offering basket. (2 minutes)

Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect and use
Every pow’r as Thou shalt choose,
Every pow’r as Thou shalt choose.

Confession of Faith

Teach the following First Catechism Questions (3 minutes)

126. Q: How many sacraments are there?
A: Two
127. Q: What are they?
A: Baptism and the Lord’s Supper
128. Q: Who appointed these sacraments?
A: The Lord Jesus Christ
129. Q: Why did Christ appoint these sacraments?
A: To distinguish His people from the world and to comfort and strengthen them



(Confession of Faith—Continued)

137. Q: What sign is used in the Lord’s Supper?

A: Eating bread and drinking wine to remember the suffering and death of Jesus

138. Q: What does the bread represent?

A: Christ’s body sacrificed for our sins

139. Q: What does the wine represent?

A: Christ’s blood shed for our sins

140. Q: Who may rightly partake of the Lord’s Supper?

A: Those who repent of their sins, trust in Christ, live a godly life, and profess their faith before the Church



Reading of the Word

Read scripture. (1-2 minutes)

Luke 22:7–20)

⁷ Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. ⁸ So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it.” ⁹ They said to him, “Where will you have us prepare it?” ¹⁰ He said to them, “Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters ¹¹ and tell the master of the house, ‘The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ ¹² And he will show you a large upper room furnished; prepare it there.” ¹³ And they went and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

¹⁴ And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵ And he said to them, “I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶ For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” ¹⁷ And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, “Take this, and divide it among yourselves. ¹⁸ For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” ¹⁹ And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” ²⁰ And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.”



Prayer

Offer a prayer of thanksgiving for what Jesus did on the cross for us. (1 minute)

Thank You, Jesus, for the reminder of what You have done for us. Thank You for the bread that represents Your body and the wine that represents Your blood shed for our sins. Thank You for dying for us, so we can live forever with You. In Your precious name, we pray. Amen.



Hearing the Word

Teach the lesson to the children using the text below as a guide. (4-6 minutes for lesson)

Our reading of the Word today is about the very last time Jesus celebrated Passover while He was here on earth. Why did Jesus celebrate Passover? (*He was Jewish and, because he was perfect, obeyed God's commands and laws in every way.*) What were God's people remembering when they ate this special meal? (*being delivered from slavery in Egypt*) What is the promise that God has given to us, that He gave to Abraham, and also to Moses and His people when He rescued them out of slavery and brought them into the Promised Land? (*"I will be your God and you will be My people. I will never leave you or forsake you."*) The people of God continued to celebrate Passover because they believed this promise was true.

We have a much bigger problem than being slaves in Egypt and having to work for a mean king. We are born with sinful hearts, and for all our lives, we are headed away from God unless He comes to save us. A few days before Jesus celebrated His last Passover with His disciples, He had ridden into Jerusalem on a donkey, and the people called Him "King." They knew they needed someone to save them, but they didn't understand that Jesus was going to save them in the biggest and best way ever. He told His disciples that He was going to die, but even they didn't understand that He would be like the Lamb of Passover: The one who saves us from our sin. (***Have the children practice saying the memory verse at this time, repeating a few words at a time after you. "Behold the Lamb of God . . . who takes away . . . the sin of the world."***)

(Now show bread and a cup of juice/wine—or the included picture). When Jesus gave His disciples bread and wine at that Last Supper, what did He tell them? Let's read it again:

(Read Luke 22:19-20) *And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And likewise, the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."*

Not long after these words were spoken, Jesus died on the cross. Later, after He had risen from the dead and gone up into heaven, the disciples remembered Jesus's words, "Do this in remembrance of me." Now under the new covenant, the disciples knew that their greatest celebration would not be about God's rescuing His people from slavery in Egypt, but about His rescuing us from slavery to sin. The body and blood of Jesus had set us free!

His Supper is a sign that points us to this rescue. Every time we take the bread and the cup, we have a picture of His body and His blood that were given as a sacrifice for us. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper causes us to remember that God has kept His promise. He has not left us hopeless in our sin. He has delivered us and will never leave or forsake us. He also made the promise at the Last Supper that He would not eat this meal again without us, so the Lord's Supper is also a time to hope for and look forward to the day when we will be with Jesus. The Lord's Supper is to remind us, refresh us, and nourish our souls to love and serve Jesus. With this meal, we are remembering the promise that He is our God, we are His people, and He will never leave us or forsake us.

(Hearing the Word—Continued)

What are some of the things you remember from watching communion/the Lord's Supper in worship? Who leads this time? Who serves the wine and the bread? What do your parents do? Why do they pray and think about what they are doing? Why do you not take communion? ***(Give the children the opportunity to answer each question. Then, discuss with them the importance of examining their hearts and making sure they are ready to partake. You may also want to explain—as simply as possible—the communicant's process in your church.)***

Let's review our catechism questions about the Lord's Supper:

- **What sign is used in the Lord's Supper?** Eating bread and drinking wine to remember the suffering and death of Jesus
- **What does the bread represent?** Christ's body sacrificed for our sins
- **What does the wine represent?** Christ's blood shed for our sins
- **Who may rightly partake of the Lord's Supper?** Those who repent of their sins, trust in Christ, live a godly life, and profess their faith before the Church

At the first Passover, the lamb was a very important part of the meal. Do you remember why? The lamb was sacrificed (killed), and the blood of the lamb was spread over the doorpost of the house so the plague of death would not come to God's people. The Lamb is also the most important part of communion—but now the Lamb is Jesus, who was sacrificed for our sin. His blood does not cover our doorposts, but it covers all our sin so that the plague of eternal death will not separate us from God. "Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." This is our memory verse for the month! Next week, we will read about someone important who pointed to Jesus and called Him the Lamb of God.

ACTIVITY 1: Hand out the Comparison Activity Sheet. Show the students the pictures and have them draw pictures in the blank squares as directed.

ACTIVITY 2: Teach the hand motions for this month's hymn, "Amazing Grace."



Benediction

Recite the following verse. (1 minute)

Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy (Jude 1:24).

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