

Disciples' Journey
Week 4
March 22, 2020
The Last Supper



“

Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the
flesh of the Son of Man and drink his
blood, you have no life in you.

(Jn 6:53)

”

The Last Supper

The Seder Supper

Finding Jesus in the Elements

What do you mean, die?

Dipping Bread, Silver Kisses





The Seder

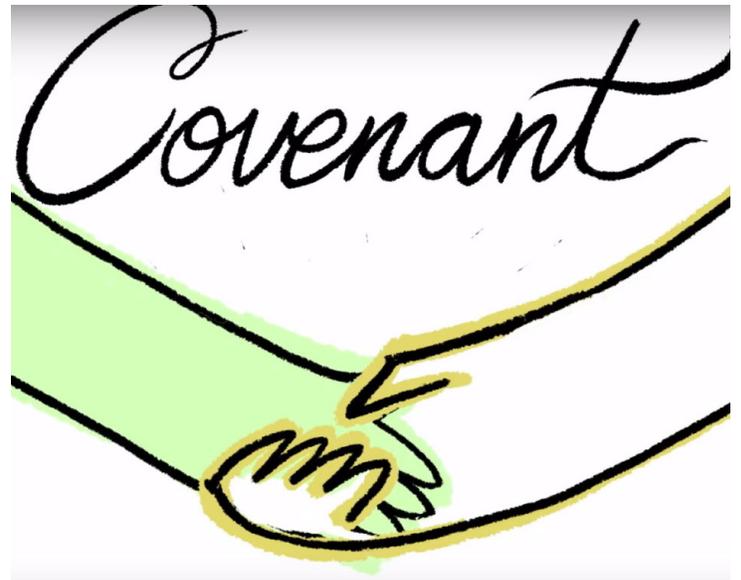
The Seder Meal was the family meal celebrating the journey of the Israelites in the Exodus from slavery in Egypt. The meal is celebrated every Passover and was a long-standing tradition by Jesus' time.

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The New Covenant

When Jesus uses the phrase, "A New Covenant," he refers to the agreement we make with God as we receive God's grace through faith in Christ. By this faith we are made right with God and experience forgiveness of sins.

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"The Old Covenant"

Jesus never uses this phrase but implies that the many covenants between God and Israel, including those between Noah, Abraham, and David, are precursors to the covenant made in Christ.

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The Bread

During the Seder Meal, the *afikomen*, or bread is placed in a bag and smashed to symbolize the suffering servant in Isaiah which many believe points to Christ's suffering. Imagine Jesus crushing the bread as he said, "This is my body, broken for you."

The Cup

Four cups of wine are served during the Seder Meal, each drunk at specific times for varying purposes. The last cup which Jesus blessed is part of the Hillel blessing celebrating God's great deeds on behalf of Israel.



The Text...

¹⁴ When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵ 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 until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." ¹⁷ Then he took a cup, and after giving 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 Then he took a loaf of 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 he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. ²¹ But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table. ²² For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!" ²³ Then they began to ask one another which one of them it could be who would do this.

[The Holy Bible: New Revised Standard Version](#). (1989). (Lk 22:14–23). Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers.



Asking the Disciples...

Trying to imagine how the disciples responded to Jesus during the Last Supper. Try to look at each word in each phrase and imagine how the disciples may have heard it—did it surprise, hurt, anger them? How does Jesus address their traditions?

How do you imagine they may have felt when he said, “This is my body, broken for you,” as he smashed the afikomen during the Seder Meal (Last Supper.)?

How do you imagine they felt when he took the cup and said, “This is my blood of the New Covenant, poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins.”

We see some of the disciples reaction to Jesus’ statement about his upcoming betrayal. How much of what would take place do you think they understood or could anticipate?