



**FAITH
& LOVE**

Church of God in Christ

Faith and Love C.O.G.I.C.
Sunday School

Lesson 9 February 1, 2026
PASSOVER

SUNDAY SCHOOL CORE VALUES



Reaching
People



Teaching
People



Ministering
to People



Assimilating
People



Building
People



Involving
People



SUNDAY SCHOOL RESPONSIVE READING

Superintendent/Teacher: Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. **Psalm 133:1**

School/Class: But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. **Hebrews 13:16**

Superintendent/Teacher: All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. **2 Timothy 3:16**

School/Class: Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. **Psalm 119:105**

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESPONSIVE READING

Superintendent/Teacher: Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. **Philippians 2:4**

School/Class: He who has a generous eye will be blessed, for he gives of his bread to the poor. **Proverbs 22:9**

Superintendent/Teacher: Therefore he says: “When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men.” **Ephesians 4:8**

School/Class: As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. **1 Peter 4:10**

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESPONSIVE READING

Superintendent/Teacher: For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. **1 Corinthians 12:12**

School/Class: For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function. **Romans 12:4**

Superintendent/Teacher: By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another. **John 13:35**

School/Class: For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. **Gal. 5:13**

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESPONSIVE READING

ALL:

But grow in the grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

2 Peter 3:18

Lesson 9 February 1, 2026

PASSOVER



- Bible Basis: Exodus 12:1-14
- Bible Truth: God gave Moses and the people instructions for the first Passover.
- Memory Verse: “And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever” (Exodus 12:14)
- Lesson Aim: By the end of the lesson, we will: RECALL events surrounding the institution of the Feast of Passover; REFLECT on the meaning of Passover and what it says about God; and DEVELOP a festival of praise to God for salvation.
- Background Scriptures: John 11:1-44 & Isaiah 25:6-16 – Read and incorporate the insights gained from the Background Scriptures into your study of the lesson.

Exodus 12:1-14 KJV

1 And the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt saying,

2 This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you.

3 Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house:

4 And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next unto his house take it according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your count for the lamb.

5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats:

6 And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening.

7 And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it.

Exodus 12:1-14 KJV

8 And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; and with bitter herbs they shall eat it.

9 Eat not of it raw, nor sodden at all with water, but roast with fire; his head with his legs, and with the purtenance thereof.

10 And ye shall let nothing of it remain until the morning; and that which remaineth of it until the morning ye shall burn with fire.

11 And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the Lord's passover.

12 For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord.

13 And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.

14 And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the Lord throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.

LIGHT ON THE WORD

The Firstborn. From the earliest times, the position of firstborn son has been one of honor. Following the father's death, the oldest son or firstborn was expected to become head of the household. Similarly, the firstborn inherited a double portion of the father's property ([Deuteronomy 21:17](#)). In the Bible, God refers to the entire nation of Israel as His "firstborn" ([Exodus 4:22](#)). Among the Egyptians, the sungod Amon-Ra was considered the protector of all firstborns, and firstborn sons were dedicated to him. Following their deliverance from Egyptian bondage, God would mandate that the firstborn Israelites be dedicated to Him ([Exodus 13:2](#)).

LIGHT ON THE WORD

Later, the Law would require that the first-born son be presented to God at the tabernacle or Temple and redeemed by a payment ([Leviticus 12; Numbers 18:15-16](#)). Similarly, the firstborns of clean animals such as bulls, lambs, or goats were to be presented to God as a sacrifice eight days after their birth. Animals with defects were unacceptable sacrifices and must be eaten at home. The firstborn of unclean animals, such an ass, could not be presented as a sacrifice and were to be redeemed with a clean animal, such as a sheep, in its place.

LIFE NEED FOR TODAY'S LESSON:

AIM: We will discover how the followers of Christ understand that people love to commemorate historic events by celebrating them year after year.

INTRODUCTION

God's Deliverance

The Passover commemorates God's deliverance of the Children of Israel from Egyptian slavery. Jacob and his sons had left the land God promised them because of a widespread famine. Over time, Jacob's descendants had become so plentiful that the Egyptian pharaoh became fearful that the Jews would take over his country, so he put them in slavery. This pharaoh went so far as to order the death of all Hebrew baby boys. Moses, a Hebrew boy who was saved from the slaughter through God's intervention, was led by God to bring His people out of bondage.

INTRODUCTION

God's Deliverance

God ordered Moses to lead the Children of Israel into Palestine, the land He had promised to Abraham. However, the pharaoh refused to release the Israelites; even though God sent nine plagues to make the pharaoh change his mind, the ruler's heart was hardened and he steadfastly refused. Now, God would send the tenth and final devastating plague.

BIBLE LEARNING

AIM: We will accept that the Passover
commemorates the Israelites' deliverance from
Egyptian bondage.

I. INSTITUTION OF THE PASSOVER

Exodus 12:1-7

Up until this point in their history, the Children of Israel had been a dismal failure. However, Israel's deliverance from Egyptian slavery will demonstrate God's love for them. God orders Moses to speak to the "entire congregation of Israel" (v. 3). By telling Israel to remake their calendar, God is signaling them that through His might, everything in their lives will be changed. This is to be a communal celebration because God delivered the entire people from slavery, something they are to never forget by commemorating their salvation annually.

I. INSTITUTION OF THE PASSOVER

Exodus 12:1-7

Now Moses is told to give Israel specific instructions for this new commemoration.

The people are told to select an unblemished male sheep or goat that was a year old or younger, and keep it with the household for the four days leading up to the Passover. The young lamb or goat then would have become a part of the household and the family would mourn its eventual sacrifice.

I. INSTITUTION OF THE PASSOVER

Exodus 12:1-7

Here we see that God requires the sacrifice to be personal. We also see how the Exodus Passover Lamb mirrors Jesus the Passover Lamb. Note also the importance of celebrating the Passover with family members in homes instead of a large community gathering. We want to remember that Jesus, the Son of God, lived with the human family before He was required to sacrifice His life for them. Perhaps more importantly, the sacrifice that Jesus made was personal and must be as relevant to each home as the community or nation.

I. INSTITUTION OF THE PASSOVER

Exodus 12:1-7

The people were instructed to slaughter the animals in the evening. This brings to mind that Jesus' crucifixion began at noon on the day of preparation for Passover ([John 19:14](#)), and that He actually died at the ninth hour ([Matthew 27:45-50](#)) – the precise time to sacrifice the Passover lambs in the Temple.

I. INSTITUTION OF THE PASSOVER

Exodus 12:1-7

After the lamb or goat was slaughtered, God instructed the Israelites to place some of its blood on the doorposts and lintels – the beam forming the upper part of the door's framework – of their houses (v. 7). By placing the blood on the doorway, the Israelites would see it every time they entered their homes, reminding them daily of the sacrifice and the fact that God had passed over their homes and spared their first born the night before they left Egypt. Note that only the blood was sacrificed to God – a reminder that only the blood of Jesus could save us from sin.

Lesson 9 February 1, 2026

PASSOVER

I. INSTITUTION OF THE PASSOVER

Exodus 12:1-7

Exodus 12 opens with instructions from the Lord to Moses and Aaron on the eve of the Israelites' exodus from Egypt. Three times the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron about this particular month. The Hebrew word *khodesh* (**KHO-desh**) is "new moon" or "month." It literally means a new moon but also means month since the new moon marked the new month in the lunar calendar. Here God is speaking to Moses and Aaron during the first month of the year. On the Jewish calendar, this month is called Nisan/Abib and corresponds to our March or April ([cf. Deuteronomy 16:1; Esther 3:7](#)). The narrator prepares the reader to anticipate that the Lord was about to do a new thing in Israel's history – He is preparing the people for the exodus from Egypt by instructing them to commemorate the event with the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread.



Exodus 12:1-14

1 And the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt saying, 2 This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you.

Lesson 9 February 1, 2026

PASSOVER

I. INSTITUTION OF THE PASSOVER

Exodus 12:1-7



Exodus 12:1-14

3 Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house: 4 And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next unto his house take it according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your count for the lamb.

The Lord instructed Moses and Aaron to tell all the people of Israel what they were supposed to do to prepare for their impending departure. The text implies that the people were not present when the Lord spoke with Moses and Aaron. The Lord's instructions were very specific. On the tenth day of the first month, every male head of household should take a lamb for his family for the Passover meal. In ancient Israel, the family was the most basic form of social organization; it provided identity, protection, goods, and resources. Unlike the individualistic faith many observe now, religion in ancient times was communal, beginning at the family level and expanding to include the entire community.

Lesson 9 February 1, 2026

PASSOVER

I. INSTITUTION OF THE PASSOVER

Exodus 12:1-7

A typical family household in Hebrew, called a *bet' ab (bait av)*, "father's house," or "house of the father," consisted of the eldest male, his wife, their adult sons and their spouses and children, their children and unmarried teenagers, unmarried sisters, and maybe another relative. If the patriarch was wealthy, the household might also include secondary wives and concubines, servants, resident aliens, and even people captured in battle. Unlike many contemporary single-family households comprised of nuclear families with a mother, father, and two-and-a-half children, a family household in ancient Israel normally consisted of seven to fifteen people.

Exodus 12:1-14

3 Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house: 4 And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next unto his house take it according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your count for the lamb.



Lesson 9 February 1, 2026

PASSOVER

I. INSTITUTION OF THE PASSOVER

Exodus 12:1-7

In addition to the specific date for selecting the lamb, and who was supposed to partake of it, Moses and Aaron were commanded to tell the people what condition the lamb must be in. First, it must be without any disease or deformities. The Hebrew word for "without blemish" is *tamim* (**tah-MEEM**) and means "without defect," "blameless," or "complete." Second, it must be a year-old male lamb or goat. The general understanding in the Hebrew sacrificial system was that clean animals without blemishes were accept-able sacrifices to God. Lambs and goats were generally readily accessible among the acceptable clean animals, and no offering or sacrifice could have any physical defect because it was for God, who deserved the first fruits and the perfect animals.



Exodus 12:1-14

5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats:

Lesson 9 February 1, 2026

PASSOVER

I. INSTITUTION OF THE PASSOVER

Exodus 12:1-7



Exodus 12:1-14

6 And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening. 7 And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it.

Moses and Aaron were also instructed to tell the people to slaughter the animals at sunset on the fourteenth day of Nisan, four days after it was selected. The Hebrew word for "evening" is '*ereb* (EH-rev). Observant Jews continue to count the new day as beginning at sunset or twilight, not at midnight as Western tradition. This is according to the account of God creating in [Genesis 1 \(vv. 5, 8, 13, 19, 23,31\)](#). They were also told to take the blood of the lamb and splash it on the two side doorposts (Heb, *mezuzah*; **mez-oo-ZAW**) and the lintel (Heb. *mashqoph*; **mash-KOFE**), or horizontal beam holding up the doorposts at the threshold, of the house where the lamb would be eaten.

LIGHT ON THE WORD

Community Religion

There was no concept of individual religious observation in the ancient world. An individual's behavior could have a harmful impact on an entire community, which is why the covenant between Israel and the Lord was with all the people, not a few individuals. This view is similar to the South African principle of Ubuntu: "A person is a person through other people."

II. INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PASSOVER MEAL

Exodus 12:8-10

God directed the Israelites to thoroughly roast the rest of the sacrificial animal over a fire and eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. God also told the Israelites to wear their belts and sandals while they ate the meal. The belt and sandals signified that Israel not only believed God would deliver them, they were dressed and ready to go. God's directions reveal His requirement that the Children of Israel place their complete faith in Him, and trust His promise of immediate deliverance. Anything left of the sacrifice was to be burnt. Here we see that God wanted His people to consume all that He had provided for them. This was the usual way to handle an offering or sacrifice in the Old Testament. Because it was holy, dedicated to God, nothing could be wasted or thrown away.

Lesson 9 February 1, 2026

PASSOVER



II. INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PASSOVER MEAL

Instructions for No Leftovers

Exodus 12:8-10

Exodus 12:1-14

8 And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; and with bitter herbs they shall eat it. 9 Eat not of it raw, nor sodden at all with water, but roast with fire; his head with his legs, and with the purturance thereof. 10 And ye shall let nothing of it remain until the morning; and that which remaineth of it until the morning ye shall burn with fire.

Once the people had slaughtered the lamb they were supposed to roast the entire animal – head, legs, and organs included – by fire and serve it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. The Hebrew word for "unleavened bread" is *matstsah* (**mats-TSAH**). Many might recognize it as the flat, crispy, lightly browned crackers sold in the grocery store during Passover. They are made with water and flour. The Israelites were specifically prohibited from eating the meat raw or boiling it in water. Moreover, all of the meat must be eaten before morning. If any meat is not eaten they are instructed to burn it. The reason for this stipulation is not given but the understanding in the Hebrew sacrificial system was that the offering could only be used for the designated purpose, in this case observing the Passover, so it had to be consumed at that meal.

III. PROMISE OF THE PASSOVER

Exodus 12:11-14

Now, God promises that He will "pass through the land of Egypt" (v. 12) and kill the firstborn of every household. For God to spare the Israelites, they had to trust and obey His instructions and mark the doorposts with the blood of the sacrificed animal. Even if the Israelite family ate the Passover meal but did not mark the doorpost with the blood, they would still be visited by this tenth and final plague – the death angel. To receive the Passover promise, each household had to express obedience to demonstrate their belief. The sole purpose of God instituting the Passover was so He could make a provision of salvation for Israel.

Lesson 9 February 1, 2026

PASSOVER

III. PROMISE OF THE PASSOVER

The Lord's Passover

Exodus 12:11-14

The Lord even specifies how the people are to eat the meal. They are told to eat in with their shoes and clothes on and staff in hand in preparation for a hasty departure. The idiom to "gird your loins" refers to men fastening their lower garments worn between their legs with a cloth or belt. Although this instruction is directed to the adult males in the household, the women and children present were also expected to prepare to leave quickly.



Exodus 12:1-14

11 And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the Lord's passover. 12 For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord. 13 And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.

Lesson 9 February 1, 2026

PASSOVER



III. PROMISE OF THE PASSOVER

The Lord's Passover

Exodus 12:11-14

On the night before the Exodus, the Lord would pass through the land of Egypt, bringing the plague of death to the firstborn males, human and animal, that did not have the sign of the blood on the posts at the threshold to their houses. Not even the gods of Egypt would be spared judgment.

The Hebrew word for "Passover" is *pesakh* (PEH-sakh). The explanation given for the meaning of the word "passover" is that the Lord would "passover" (*pesakh*) those households where the Israelites resided indicated by the blood on the posts (v. 13). The blood did not have a protective power, but was rather a sign to Israel. The Lord was more than aware which houses contained faithful Israelite families; this was not for the Lord's sake, but for those who were spared to know that He would do what He promised.

Exodus 12:1-14

11 And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the Lord's passover. 12 For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord. 13 And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.

Lesson 9 February 1, 2026

PASSOVER



III. PROMISE OF THE PASSOVER

The Lord's Passover Exodus 12:11-14

Exodus 12:1-14

14 And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the Lord throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.

The meal the Israelites would share would not be a time of relaxation and merriment, but rather a solemn occasion. Moses and Aaron were putting their faith in the Lord by telling the people that the Lord was about to deliver them from slavery in Egypt, when they did not know whether the people would believe them and do as they had commanded. Nonetheless, they were to tell the people that when this happened, they should commemorate the event as the Passover, to be observed on 15 Nisan each year, and they must pass down this tradition to their children for generations. In adherence to this command, the Israelites were to observe the Festival of Unleavened Bread for seven days as a reminder that in their haste to leave Egypt, there was no time to wait for the yeast to rise in the bread. Part of observing the Passover was to abstain from eating anything with leaven during this time or even having any leaven in the house.

LIGHT ON THE WORD

The One True God

Ancient peoples, including the Israelites before the monarchy, acknowledged the existence of multiple gods. However, the Israelites believed that the Lord their God was above all the others. The text does not state what judgment the Lord would execute on the Egyptian gods. Nonetheless, since the Egyptians believed that the pharaoh was divine, some scholars suggest that this statement is directed at the pharaoh.

BIBLE APPLICATION

AIM: We will want believers to know that the Children of Israel obey God and that we too should obey the Lord.

BIBLE APPLICATION

In the Pentateuch and in Judaism, Passover commemorates God physically delivering the Israelites from slavery and protecting their first born in the process. The passage and the festival serve as a reminder that our God is a God who is involved in people's lives. In a sermon delivered to Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama, on April 7, 1957, Martin Luther King Jr. proclaimed, "And I say to you this morning, my friends, rise up and know that as you struggle for justice, you do not struggle alone. But God struggles with you. And He is working every day." Passover serves as an annual reminder of God's willingness and ability to struggle with and for us against oppression. It also serves as an annual opportunity to thank God for all of the continuing work of salvation in our lives.

STUDENT RESPONSES

AIM: We will learn that Christians accept that there is no need in our lives that remains outside of God's care and concern.

STUDENT RESPONSES

In the Passover, we witness a divine liberation enacted under the stern hand of our God. In Christ we share in this liberation, freed from the slavery of our sin.

The Exodus, even though it happened thousands of years ago, called a people into being. More importantly, it demonstrated the extraordinary lengths God will go to to save a people He loved. Sadly, God's people have not always responded to His lovingkindness with faithfulness. While God does not require that present-day saints make the physical sacrifice Jesus did, He does require that we present ourselves as living sacrifices in return for what He has done for us. Every day God presents us with opportunities to demonstrate to others our faithfulness to Him, even during challenging situations or circumstances...

Prayer

God,

Remembering Your deliverance in our lives is a special gift from You.

Help us to allow Your goodness to stay at the forefront of our choices.

As we travel from bondage to freedom, may we know that You are
guiding us along the way.

In Jesus' Name we pray,

Amen.

Lesson 9 February 1, 2026
PASSOVER



Next Sunday
February 8, 2026
Lesson 10
Feast of Weeks
Leviticus 23:15-22