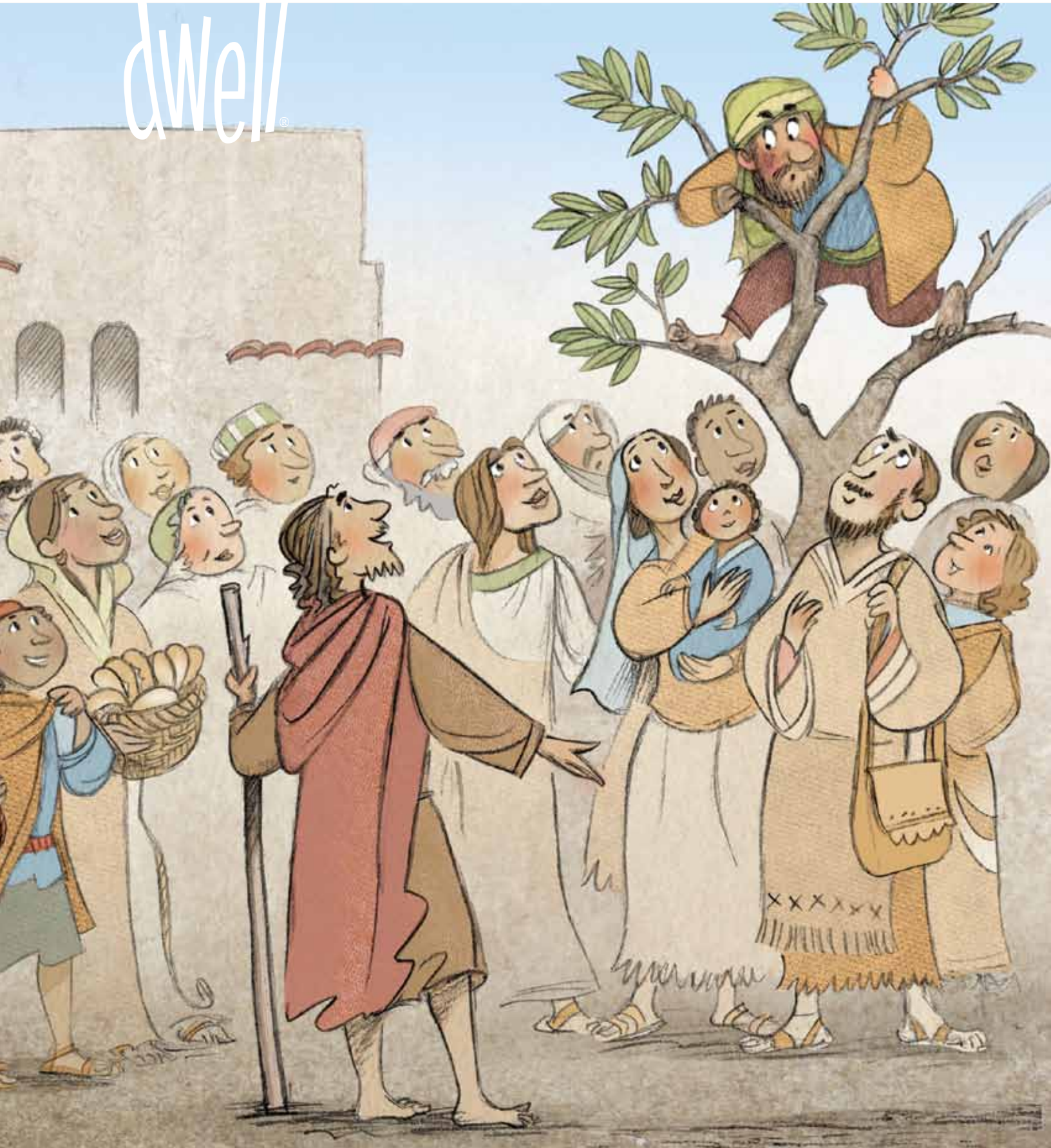


dwell[®]



DIVE

Dear Family,

For the next six weeks we'll continue to explore the Bible and use the book *Q&A: A Summary of Biblical Teachings* as we ask the question "What Is Being a Christian All About?" As we answer that question, we'll look at the meaning of the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Week 1: **How Faith Begins, the story of Lydia** (Acts 16:6-15) 

Week 2: **Signs and Seals of Grace, the Passover** (Exodus 12) 

Week 3: **A Promise from God, Baptisms in Acts** (Various passages from Acts) 

Week 4: **Remembering the Cross, the Last Supper** (Luke 22:7-23) 

Week 5: **Our New Life, Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet** (John 13:1-17) 

Week 6: **Making Our New Life Real, Jesus Meets Zacchaeus** (Luke 19:1-10) 

Pass It On

Here are some ideas for how you might engage your son or daughter in a faith discussion during the next six weeks:

- Week 1 (this week): Share a story or two of a time in your life when you especially felt God leading you forward.
- Week 2: Share about a day you'll always remember—your child's birth or adoption. Get out pictures, videos, and mementos from that day as you express how blessed you and your family are because of his or her life.
- Week 3: If your child has been baptized, talk about that day and explain what it meant for you as a parent to bring your son or daughter before the church to be baptized. If your child has not been baptized, talk about the possibility and how it could happen.
- Week 4: Get a special loaf of bread for dinner. As you eat, talk about what age you were when you first participated in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Was there anything specific you needed to do or say before you participated? What was "special" or "holy" about the experience?
- Weeks 5 and 6: Brainstorm some ways your family might join together in an act of service. Decide on an idea and schedule it sometime in the next month.

Sincerely,

P.S. Check out www.NurtureKidsFaith.org for more faith-building ideas for home!

Memory Challenge Cards (NIV)

Copy these Scripture Memory Challenge cards onto cardstock, and then cut them apart to distribute to the group. To help encourage them to use the cards, consider punching a hole in each and attaching it to a key ring or small carabineer.









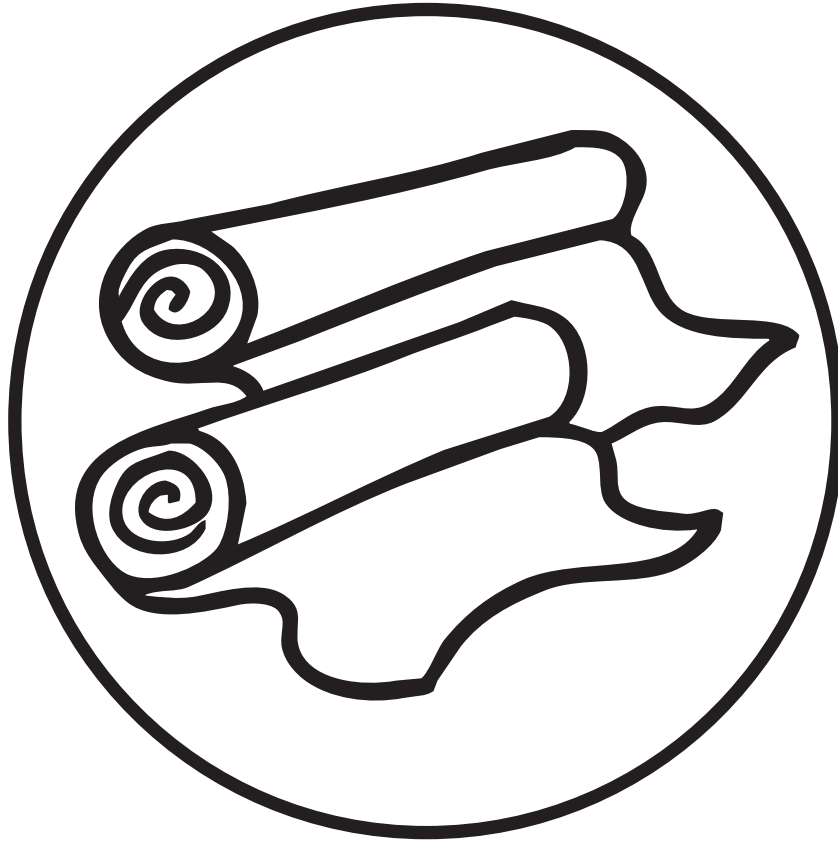
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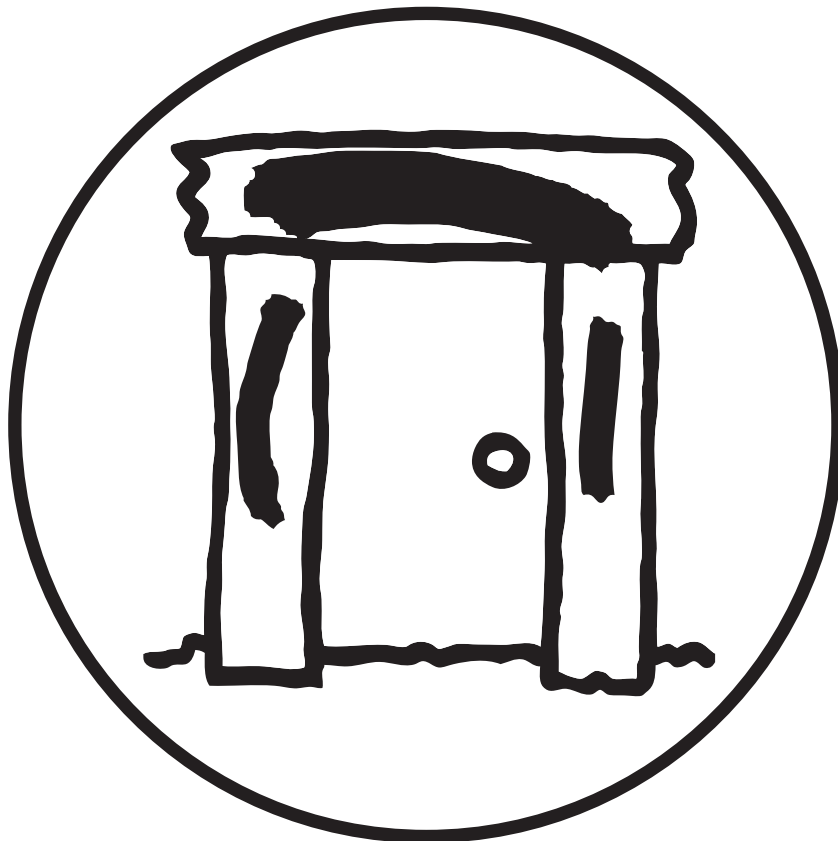
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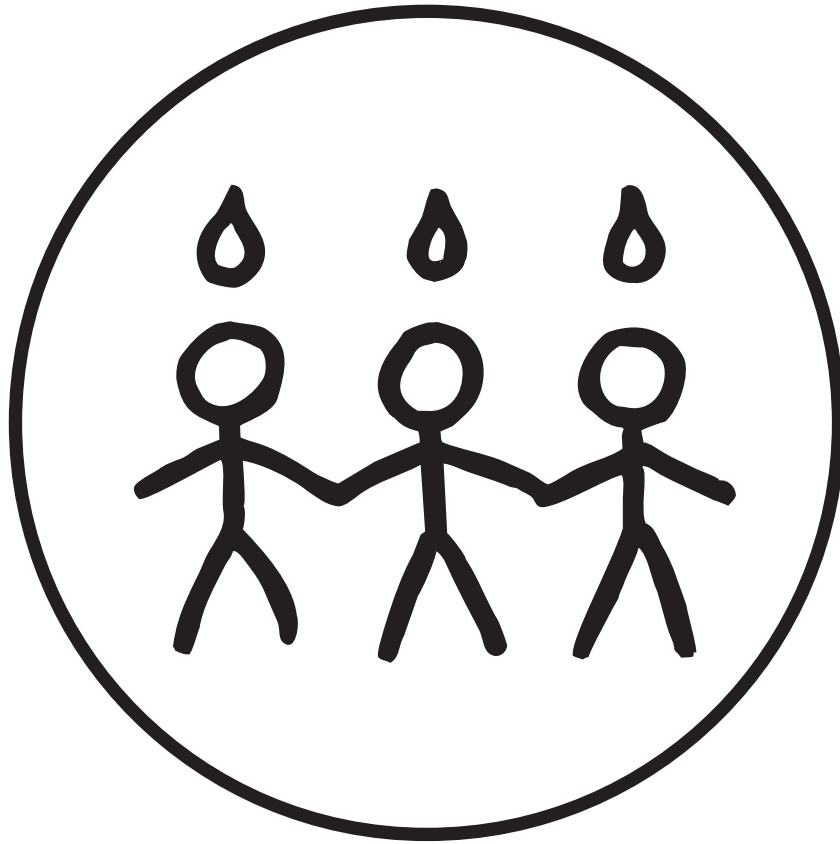
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Year 2, Unit 1, Session 1



Year 2, Unit 1, Session 2



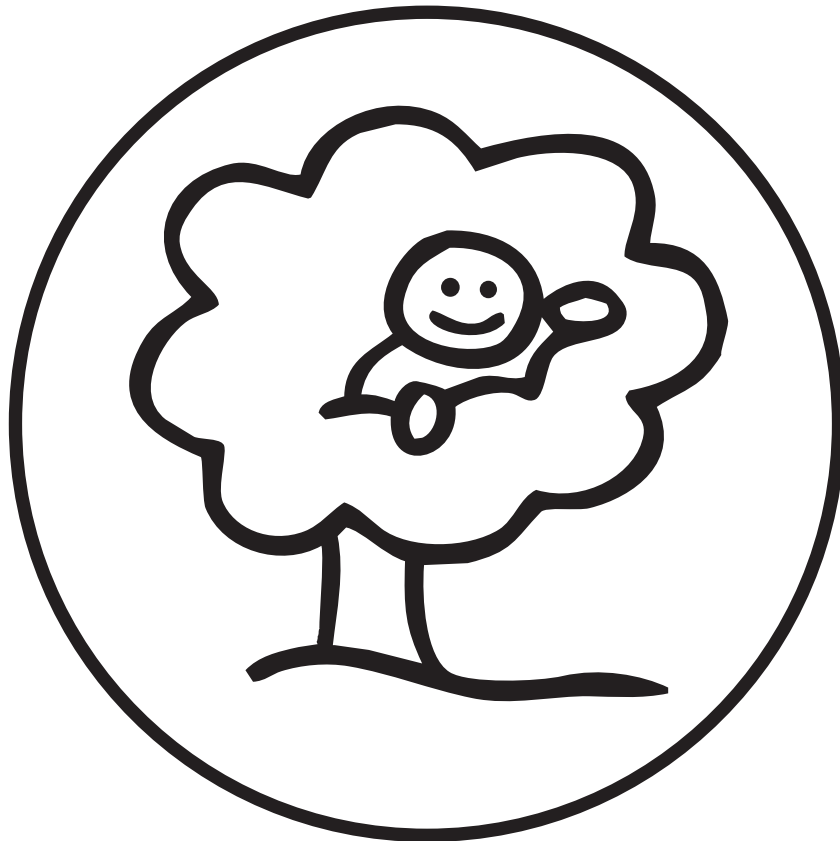
Year 2, Unit 1, Session 3



Year 2, Unit 1, Session 4



Year 2, Unit 1, Session 5



Year 2, Unit 1, Session 6

Trusting God as Our Guide

Everyday life is full of choices. What will you do today? Who will you talk to? Where will you go? What will you believe? In the journey of life we can depend on God every step of the way by asking for the Holy Spirit's guidance day by day.

In your small group create a short drama about a situation that could happen at school or at home, and suggest how you could seek God's guidance in that situation. Use one of the examples below or come up with a scenario of your own. Act out the resolution for the entire group to see.

- This summer you need to choose between band camp and sports. You excel at both, and you enjoy both. How do you look for God's leading in this situation?
- You have lots of fun with friends on your team, and between games and practice you spend tons of time together. Lately you've noticed that you're picking up a few bad habits from some of your teammates. How do you seek God's guidance in this situation?
- A friend of yours has lots of problems at home. He or she needs a shoulder to lean on and a listening ear. How do you depend on the Holy Spirit in this situation?
- Two of your friends are having problems with each other. It's gotten kind of ugly, and people are starting to take sides. How would you rely on the Holy Spirit in this situation?
- A friend at school has been asking questions about God. You don't want to get preachy, but he seems curious. How do you follow the Spirit's leading in this situation?
- Your house has very strict rules about everything. Some of your friends are allowed to stay out later, watch movies that you can't see, and go to parties at each other's houses. You want more freedom. How do you seek God's guidance in this situation?
- A friend of yours has become completely boy/girl crazy. You used to hang out all the time and now you're hardly a blip on his/her radar. How do you seek God's guidance in handling this situation?

The Passover

From Exodus 12, NIV

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, “This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. 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. If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat. The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the members of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. 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.”

Set the script down and pick up the red paint and paintbrush. Step onto the stool or chair and paint on the cardboard or sturdy paper you stuck to the doorpost. Paint long stripes of red around the door. Do this without speaking as the group watches. Then pick up your script and proceed with the story.

“That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. Do not eat the meat raw or boiled in water, but roast it over a fire—with the head, legs and internal organs. Do not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it. This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the LORD’s Passover.

“On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn of both people and animals, and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD. The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.

“This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD—a lasting ordinance. For seven days you are to eat bread made without yeast.”

Set down the script and pick up the bread from the table and hold it for the group to see. Tear off a small piece and eat it. Then pass it to the person sitting closest to you. Nod to indicate that he or she can do the same. Then, as the bread is being passed, pick up your script again and continue reading the story.

“On the first day remove the yeast from your houses, for whoever eats anything with yeast in it from the first day through the seventh must be cut off from Israel. On the first day hold a sacred assembly, and another one on the seventh day. Do no work at all on these days, except to prepare food for everyone to eat; that is all you may do.

“Celebrate the Festival of Unleavened Bread, because it was on this very day that I brought your divisions out of Egypt. Celebrate this day as a lasting ordinance for the generations to come. In the first month you are to eat bread made without yeast, from the evening of the fourteenth day until the evening of the twenty-first day. For seven days no yeast is to be found in your houses. And anyone, whether foreigner or native-born, who eats anything with yeast in it must be cut off from the community of Israel. Eat nothing made with yeast. Wherever you live, you must eat unleavened bread.”

Then Moses summoned all the elders of Israel and said to them, “Go at once and select the animals for your families and slaughter the Passover lamb. Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it into the blood in the basin and put some of the blood on the top and on both sides of the doorframe. None of you shall go out of the door of your house until morning. When the LORD goes through the land to strike down the Egyptians, he will see the blood on the top and sides of the doorframe and will pass over that doorway, and he will not permit the destroyer to enter your houses and strike you down.

“Obey these instructions as a lasting ordinance for you and your descendants. When you enter the land that the LORD will give you as he promised, observe this ceremony. 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.’” Then the people bowed down and worshiped. The Israelites did just what the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron.

At midnight the LORD struck down all the firstborn in Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh, who sat on the throne, to the firstborn of the prisoner, who was in the dungeon, and the firstborn of all the livestock as well. Pharaoh and all his officials and all the Egyptians got up during the night, and there was loud wailing in Egypt, for there was not a house without someone dead.

Set your script on the table and pick up the bunch of flowers. Walk to the center of the circle formed by the chairs and bend down to set the flowers on the ground. Look down at them sadly, as though you are a mourner placing flowers near a grave. Then stand silently and go back to the table to pick up your script and continue with the story.

During the night Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, “Up! Leave my people, you and the Israelites! Go, worship the LORD as you have requested. Take your flocks and herds, as you have said, and go. And also bless me.”

The Egyptians urged the people to hurry and leave the country. “For otherwise,” they said, “we will all die!” So the people took their dough before the yeast was added, and carried it on their shoulders in kneading troughs wrapped in clothing. The Israelites did as Moses instructed and asked the Egyptians for articles of silver and gold and for clothing. The LORD had made the Egyptians favorably disposed toward the people, and they gave them what they asked for; so they plundered the Egyptians.

Go to the table and set down your script. Pick up a walking stick or a duffel bag/suitcase. Stand before your group, but look beyond them—off into the distance. Take a deep breath and exhale; look around hopefully and smile as you say, “Freedom.” Pause for a moment, then go back to the table to put the stick or travel bag down and pick up your script to continue the story.

The Israelites journeyed from Rameses to Sukkoth. There were about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides women and children. Many other people went up with them, and also large droves of livestock, both flocks and herds. With the dough the Israelites had brought from Egypt, they baked loaves of unleavened bread. The dough was without yeast because they had been driven out of Egypt and did not have time to prepare food for themselves.

Now the length of time the Israelite people lived in Egypt was 430 years. At the end of the 430 years, to the very day, all the LORD’s divisions left Egypt. Because the LORD kept vigil that night to bring them out of Egypt, on this night all the Israelites are to keep vigil to honor the LORD for the generations to come.

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron, “These are the regulations for the Passover meal: No foreigner may eat it. Any slave you have bought may eat it after you have circumcised him, but a temporary resident or a hired worker may not eat it. It must be eaten inside the house; take none of the meat outside the house. Do not break any of the bones. The whole community of Israel must celebrate it.

“A foreigner residing among you who wants to celebrate the LORD’s Passover must have all the males in his household circumcised; then he may take part like one born in the land. No uncircumcised male may eat it. The same law applies both to the native-born and to the foreigner residing among you.”

All the Israelites did just what the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron. And on that very day the LORD brought the Israelites out of Egypt by their divisions.

Pause for a moment before sitting down in your regular seat to continue the session.

Service Charade Slips

Bathe the dog	Cook a meal
Babysit	Mow the lawn
Set the table	Vacuum
Clean the toilet	Fold laundry
Shovel snow	Make your bed
Iron clothes	Take out the trash
Put away groceries	Clean your bedroom
Send a card to someone	Wash the windows
Wash the dishes	Listen to a friend
Rake the yard	Dust a room
Wash a car	



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Year 1

Unit 1 What Do I Do When Things Fall Apart?

Unit 2 What's the Covenant All About?

Unit 3 Who Is God?

Unit 4 Who Is Jesus?

Unit 5 Who Is the Holy Spirit?

Unit 6 What Is the Church?

Year 2

Unit 1 What Is Being a Christian All About?

Unit 2 What's with All the Rules?

Unit 3 Can't We All Just Get Along?

Unit 4 Who's Number 1?

Unit 5 Does What I Do Make a Difference?

Unit 6 What Do I Say When I Pray?


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