

PASSOVER

Tue. 4/1

[Exodus 11:1-12:30](#) – There are a lot of things in the Bible that cause us to struggle. At times, those struggles can be explained by a lack of understanding of the cultural context of the periods in which they occurred. An example would be Passover. Passover starts in Genesis as Joseph is sold into slavery in Egypt. He opens the door for his brothers and their families to live in Egypt, which eventually led to their enslavement. God would send Moses to lead the people out of slavery, but it would take 10 plagues before Pharaoh, the Egyptian leader, would let them go. The last plague would be the death of all firstborn sons. God provided a way for His people to be given grace and not have their firstborns killed. They would need to sacrifice a perfect lamb and put the blood of the lamb over their door. The angel of death would then pass over their homes.

What is the connection between Passover and Jesus' death?

What is God setting you free from?

OUR SINS

Wed. 4/2

[Isaiah 52:13-53:12](#) – As the people of God left Egypt, God gave them boundaries through laws and rituals. The boundaries were to guide them into a relationship with Him. When the boundaries were broken, this was sin, and a penalty needed to be paid. The issue is that the penalty for sin is death. A perfect lamb was used to restore the relationship with God. This context helps us understand today's reading. A time was coming when a person would become that lamb. We have the benefit of history and know this person is Jesus. The people of Isaiah's time would have no idea who this person was or when the person would arrive. What they knew was that someone would be crushed their sin.

How does Jesus fulfill this prophecy?

Why is it important to know this prophecy?

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thur. 4/3

[Luke 22:7-23](#) - Maundy Thursday is when we celebrate the Lord's Supper. The celebration corresponds to when Jesus gathered with his disciples for one last meal, and in celebration of that meal, changes it to mean something else. Traditionally, the meal reminded the people about their deliverance from Egypt. Jesus is changing it, so it's a time of deliverance from sin. He uses the unleavened bread, which is there as a reminder of the urgency of leaving Egypt. As he breaks it, he lets them know his body will be broken for them. He takes the cup of wine and shares with them that this is the new covenant poured out for them and for the forgiveness of sin. The disciples didn't understand then, but would later see the spiritual power of that moment and would share it with those who followed them in following Jesus.

Why is Maundy Thursday important?

How will you celebrate Maundy Thursday?

MAKING SENSE OF IT

Fri. 4/4

[Romans 5:15-21](#) – The Apostle Paul helps us to make sense of Jesus' death and resurrection. He shared his knowledge and its transformative power with the followers of Jesus in Rome. He was hoping to meet them in person and sent this letter. Earlier in Romans, Paul explains what sin is and its penalty. He shares God's heart, which is to have an eternal relationship with people. To have an eternal relationship with God, sin has to be removed, which is why Jesus came to Earth. Paul's rationale was not something we hear from the other disciples. They are teaching Jesus' words and actions. Paul complements their teaching by explaining why Jesus came, died, and rose again.

How would you explain Romans 5:15-21 to someone else?

Why is this important to our faith journey?