

Principle 7 – SIMULATIONS

The objective and purpose of this simulation is to give the Mothers and children an experience with a “Jewish” feast and the symbolism connected with it. As the food is eaten, have the lead mother or designate another to tell the stories of the Hebrews and ask questions about the symbolic foods. If you hold both feasts in one day, it is suggested that in between these two Feasts, the children are taken outside or to another area to participate in the Mattock Dance while the next feast is set up.

SUGGESTED SET-UP:

Use butcher paper on the floor as the table. Place utensils, napkins, and saucers with salt water like condiments on the “tables.” Prepare the plates as a Seder plate with the seven different foods, then pass out plates to children.

For background understanding of purposes and symbolism of Jewish Passover Feasts, read the Haggadah, *Celebrate!* by Gilda Berger (Jewish author) or *Celebrating Passover* by Marianne Monson-Burton (LDS author).

INSTRUCTIONS:

Passover Feast:

Gather, present and eat these seven symbolic food items for a Passover Feast. Tell the following stories:

Israel’s Flight from Egypt, The Unleavened Bread, The Last Supper

1. Unleavened bread – This symbol originally represented the needfulness of Israel fleeing with their bread not yet risen. Bread without yeast can last a long time and leavened bread goes bad. Today, it can represent the Savior as the Bread of Life and the corruption of sin and the Incorruption of the Savior, just as the unleavened bread is easily incorruptible.
2. Greens – (Romaine Lettuce or Parsley Dipped in salt water) Dipping the greens in salt water represents the tears of Israel in Egypt under bondage. The greens represent the hope and rebirth of freedom as the hope of spring after a long winter.
3. Grape Juice – This represents the covenant the Lord made to Israel (Exodus 6:6-8)
4. Haroset – This represents the mortar in Egypt, another reminder of their slavery.
5. Horseradish – This represents the bitterness of bondage/slavery and sin.
6. Egg – This symbolized a new life and the temple, which are both derived from the Hebrew word home.
7. Lamb – A lamb was used for the sacrifices in the Temple. This lamb had to be the first born with no blemishes, no broken bones, etc. This Paschal Lamb represents the Christ, the lamb without blemish who paid the price for our redemption and who is the bride price for Israel.

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For background understanding of purposes and symbolism of Hebrew Wedding Feasts, read Beloved Bridegroom: Finding Christ in Ancient Jewish Marriage and Family Customs by Donna B. Nielson (LDS author). We suggest that you ask questions that explain the symbolic foods as you eat them.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Wedding Feast:

Gather, present and eat these seven symbolic food items for a Wedding Feast. Tell the following stories:

The Parable of the Ten Virgins – emphasizing the Wedding Feast,
King Thrushebeard (A story of the Bridegroom, His dealings with Israel
and His coming Wedding Feast).

1. Wheat* – Bread was believed to provide spiritual as well as physical sustenance. If bread was included on the table then the meal was defined as a meal. To “break bread” meant “to eat a meal.” Bread was always broken or torn, never cut. It was represented the Lord’s presence at the table.
2. Barley *– same as above
3. Grapes (The Vine) – The grape-vine can be a symbol of “the fruitful vine” and the “vine brought out of Egypt, which was Jesus, the “true vine.”
4. Olives – Olive oil was used for healing as well as in the temple. It has been a symbol of “divine blessing.”
5. Figs – Figs represents the fertility of the Promised Land, as well as peace, prosperity, great joy and the type of existence where families could multiply and flourish in safety.
6. Pomegranates –
7. Dates – Dates were the source of honey in the Bible. The date palms symbolized beauty, grace and fruitfulness.

*Can be made into a bread form or boiled, parched, soaked, sprouted & roasted

DEBRIEF:

- What was your favorite part?
- What did you notice?
- Why do you think we told those stories?
- What could the two feasts represent?
- What is the message of the feasts and the stories?