

SABBATH SCHOOL

Preteen Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

Level 2 • Unit 8 • Week 3

NIGHT TO BE OBSERVED AND DAYS OF UNLEAVENED BREAD

OBJECTIVE:

To give understanding of the meaning and practices of the Night to Be Observed and the Days of Unleavened Bread.

ATTENTION GETTER:

Have unleavened cookies, cakes and crackers for the children to eat. Blindfold the children and have them take turns sampling the goodies and say whether they guess it is unleavened or leavened. When every child has had a turn, let the group discuss why they guessed as they did. Talk about the texture, taste, etc. Leave any deep explanations for later in the lesson.

Note: If the lesson is done before the Days of Unleavened Bread, it would be best to have leavened bread to compare with the unleavened bread. During the Days of Unleavened Bread, of course, only unleavened bread should be used.

BIBLE LESSON:

Say: We have learned in a previous lesson that the Passover reminds us that Christ died for our sins. Today we will learn about the Night to Be Observed and the Days of Unleavened Bread which teach us about keeping sin away.

Ask: How many of you remember the special night after Passover when we meet together at different homes?

Ask: Why is this night special?

Say: This special night, called the Night to Be Observed, is special because it helps us to remember the night when the Israelites were freed from slavery and left Egypt. This night also helps us to reflect on how we can be freed from sin, our slave master. We begin eating unleavened

bread on this night because this night begins the Holy Day, the First Day of Unleavened Bread.

Ask: For how many days do we keep the Days of Unleavened Bread?

Say: God has commanded us to keep this feast for seven days. The first and the seventh days are Holy Days. This is why we go to church on these days during the Days of Unleavened Bread.

Ask: We have mentioned the word unleavened several times. What does unleavened mean? Think back on when we had our taste test at the beginning of the lesson and you may get a clue.

Say: Unleavened means without leavening. So what is leavening? Leavening is anything that causes dough (a flour mixture) to puff up and rise.

Ask: Can you name any leavening products?

Say: Yes, things like baking powder, baking soda and yeast are leavening products.

When we make our cakes and breads without leavening, they look flat and may be harder than when we have leavening. God uses the idea of leavening to give us a picture of what sin does to us. The leavening represents sin during these seven days. Sin puffs us up. Bread containing leavening is puffed up. When we do not add leavening to our bread, there is no puffiness. When we remove sin—wrongdoing—from our lives, we are no longer puffed up.

Ask: How do we prepare for the Days of Unleavened Bread?

Say: We get rid of all the leavening products and leavened bread from our home. I am sure that many of you can remember helping your mom and dad get rid of crackers and bread and other leavened products. You also clean out the pantry and other areas where crumbs may have fallen. Doing this helps us to think about putting away sin or getting rid of wrong things we do.

We must be careful when we are throwing away products. We must read the contents (ingredients) of the products because everything that is flat is not unleavened. Neither is every puffy thing leavened. Just as we can be fooled and think that a leavened product is unleavened, we can be tricked that bad things are good because they appear to be OK or attractive.

Ask: Should we eat unleavened bread during the Days of Unleavened Bread?

Say: Yes, we should eat unleavened bread during the seven days. Eating unleavened bread helps us to remember to do what is right. We put out the leavening that represents sin; and we eat unleavened bread to represent doing what is right. It helps us to remember to obey God.

LESSON APPLICATION:

Supplies: Magazine pictures of food products
Construction paper
Scissors
Crayons
Glue
Markers
Pencils

Have children draw a line down the middle of the construction paper and write the heading "Leavened" on one side and "Unleavened," on the other side. Children will cut out pictures of food items and glue them on construction paper under the appropriate headings. Note: The children can draw pictures as well as use the ones provided.

Music:

Continue to teach the children the song, "Do You Know God's Feasts?" (by Ruthie Brown and Mark Graham). Divide the children into two groups. (See week 1 of this unit for music.)

(Group 1) Do you know God's Feasts in the spring and in the fall?
(Group 2) I am happy to say that I can name them all.

(Group 1) Can you find where they're written down for us to see?
(Group 2) They're recorded in Leviticus chapter twenty-three.

(Group 1) What's the fourteenth day of the first month in the spring?
(Group 2) It's the Passover of Jesus Christ the King.

(Group 1) On the fifteenth day, can you tell me what begins?
(Group 2) Days of Unleavened Bread mean getting rid of sin.

(Group 1) Can you count fifty days from the wavesheaf offering?
(Group 2) That is Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came.

(Both) Then the months go by and we watch the summer go.
But there still are four more Holy Days to know.

(Group 1) On the first day of the seventh month, what do we learn?
(Group 2) It's the Day of Trumpets when Jesus will return.

(Group 1) And the tenth of the month is what Holy Day?
(Group 2) It's the Day of Atonement, when Satan's put away.

(Both) Next the Feast of Tabernacles is a time of happiness,
When Christ will reign and the world will all be blessed.

(Group 1) On the Last Great Day, what does God have in mind?
(Group 2) He will offer salvation to all of mankind.

(Group 1) Do you know God's Feasts in the spring and in the fall?
(Group 2) I am happy to say that I can name them all.

(Both) And the seven Feasts which God gave to man
Are the seven steps in God's eternal plan.

MEMORY VERSE:

Exodus 12:17 "You shall observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread...throughout your generations...."

family activity

THE POINT:

To understand the meaning and practices of the Night to Be Observed and the Days of Unleavened Bread.

ASK ME...

- Why do we keep the Night to Be Observed?
- What does unleavened mean?
- What does leaven represent in our lives?
- How many days do we observe the Days of Unleavened Bread?

FAMILY TOGETHER TIME:

Talk about ways your family can try to put sin out of your lives. Explain that just as we can be fooled that some products may be unleavened, it is just as easy to be fooled by the appearance of sin. Satan makes things that are bad for us have a good appearance. Many times they look very attractive and can seem good.

MEMORY VERSE:

Exodus 12:17 "You shall observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread...throughout your generations...."