

# SABBATH SCHOOL

## Preteen Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

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Level 4 • Unit 8 • Week 3

### THE DAYS OF UNLEAVENED BREAD

#### **OBJECTIVE:**

To teach the student about the Night to Be Much Observed and the Days of Unleavened Bread.

#### **ATTENTION GETTER:**

The children of Israel left Egypt victorious over Pharaoh and the Egyptians. This was right after God had used the 10 plagues to convince Pharaoh to free the Israelites from slavery. The Bible calls this time the Exodus. The people were finally free. The Egyptians were so glad to see them go, they gave the Israelites whatever they wanted! The night that they left, the 15th of Abib, became known as the Night to Be Much Observed. This night is also the start of the First Day of Unleavened Bread.

Today, we celebrate the Night to Be Much Observed by having a meal and fellowship with others in the church. We may go out to a restaurant, have people over to our house, go to another's house or meet at a special place. The Night to Be Much Observed is an excellent time for food and fellowship and time to discuss the plan of God.

**Do:** Allow students to share some of their special Night to Be Much Observed memories.

**Ask:** What is most certainly on the table for the Night to Be Much Observed?

Since it's the start of the Days of Unleavened Bread, unleavened bread is most certainly on the table for the Night to Be Much Observed. Leavening is the main symbol of the Days of Unleavened Bread. Leavening is yeast, baking soda and other ingredients that make bread, cookies and cakes rise. Leaven symbolizes sin because it tends to "puff" things up, just like pride can puff us up. God wants us to get the physical leavening out of all our personal possessions like homes, cars and even our lockers at school! Getting rid of the physical leavening reminds us to get spiritual sin out of our lives. God gives us these symbols as a constant reminder of His plan for salvation and His way of life.

## **BIBLE LESSON:**

### **THE NIGHT TO BE MUCH OBSERVED IN ANCIENT ISRAEL**

Do you know what the Night to Be Much Observed pictures? It reminds us of what happened to the Israelites the night of the first Passover. The Israelites had been in Egypt for over 400 years. The Pharaohs had made them slaves and made them perform hard labor. After the 10th plague of the death angel passing through Egypt, the Egyptian people begged the Israelites to leave because they were afraid of what might happen next.

The Israelites took their dough before it was leavened, tied up their kneading bowels and clothes, and slung them over their shoulders (Exodus 12:34). Moses had instructed the Israelites to ask the Egyptians for gold, silver and clothing. The frightened Egyptian people had gladly given the Israelites the silver, gold, fine jewelry and clothes.

“And the LORD had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they granted them what they requested. Thus they plundered the Egyptians” (Exodus 12:36).

The Israelites packed their belongings and were ready to leave. There was a mixed multitude of people leaving Egypt. Not only Israelites went, but others who had been slaves. The number of people who left was about 600,000 men on foot plus women and children (Exodus 12:37).

That night, the night of the 15th of Abib, the Israelites left Egypt with great joy and happiness. They were finally free and ready to go and worship the Lord. God gave them a clear night and a full moon to travel by. Many of the Holy Days or feast days have a full moon shining during those periods. God commanded the Israelites to celebrate this night each year so they would remember that He saved them from slavery (Exodus 12:37-42).

“It is a night of solemn observance to the LORD for bringing them out of the land of Egypt. This is that night of the LORD, a solemn observance for all the children of Israel throughout their generations” (Exodus 12:42). This is the Night to Be Much Observed.

### **THE NIGHT TO BE MUCH OBSERVED TODAY**

Each year God’s people gather together to celebrate the Night to Be Much Observed. This is a special treat since everyone has spent time and energy getting leavening out of their homes and possessions. Enjoying a good meal with church brothers and sisters is an excellent way to start off the spring Holy Day season. God’s way of life is filled with activities that make our life more fun and exciting.

Some congregations have all the members meet at one restaurant. Others may get together in small groups in members’ homes or restaurants. The important thing is that everyone is celebrating God’s commanded night. It is the first meal of the Days of Unleavened Bread.

The Night to Be Much Observed is on the evening or beginning of the First Day of Unleavened Bread. We are blessed to know God’s true way of life. God gives us many blessings by keeping His laws and commands—this night is just one blessing.

How can each of us make the night more special? If the meal is held at our house, we can make a special dish or help in the kitchen. Creating a small gift or card can also make the event more fun. Setting the table and helping with drinks is another good idea. If we go somewhere, having a joyous attitude makes the evening better for all. God commands us to celebrate—what an awesome God we have!

What about those who may be homebound or can no longer attend church because of health or some other reason? This is a night for them as well. We should remember those who cannot get out to go to a restaurant or someone's home. Taking a meal to them would be a great service. It would make them happy and us happy as well.

#### THE DAYS OF UNLEAVENED BREAD

“Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. On the first day you shall remove leaven from your houses. For whoever eats leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that person shall be cut off from Israel. On the first day there shall be a holy convocation, and on the seventh day there shall be a holy convocation for you. No manner of work shall be done on them; but that which everyone must eat—that only may be prepared by you” (Exodus 12:15-16).

The Israelites were to eat unleavened bread for seven days. On the first and last day, they were to have a holy convocation, which means to have church services. The first and last days of the festival are Holy Days.

God uses symbols to teach us. Egypt is pictured as a symbol of sin. The Israelites came out of Egypt. Symbolically they came out of sin.

Leaven is also a symbol of sin. Leaven spreads quickly and thoroughly throughout bread dough. Sin spreads quickly and can overcome us if we don't watch out! “Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump?” (1 Corinthians 5:6). The Ten Commandments define sin. That is why we must try to obey them. When we do sin, we must ask God for forgiveness.

“Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a feast to the LORD. Unleavened bread shall be eaten seven days. And no leavened bread shall be seen among you, nor shall leaven be seen among you in all your quarters. And you shall tell your sons in that day, saying, ‘This is done because of what the LORD did for me when I came up from Egypt.’ It shall be as a sign to you on your hand and as a memorial between your eyes, that the LORD's law may be in your mouth; for with a strong hand the LORD has brought you out of Egypt. You shall therefore keep this ordinance in its season from year to year” (Exodus 13:6-10).

The New Testament apostles also kept the Days of Unleavened Bread (Acts 20:6 and 1 Corinthians 5:6-8). God commands us to observe the Days of Unleavened Bread each year (Exodus 13:10). That way we will be constantly reminded to get the leaven—sin—out.

**LESSON APPLICATION:**

Play "Bible Baseball" game. Use the baseball diamond at the end of this lesson as a game board. Use game pieces out of an existing game or make your own to act as the base runners. Questions are at the end of the lesson.

Divide the class into two teams to play this game. There are three categories of questions: 1) Easiest (right answer counts as a single). 2) Next easiest—right answer counts as double. 3) Hardest—counts as a triple. Players take a turn at answering a question for their team. The player chooses which hit they would like to go for. A wrong answer is an out. A right answer lets the player move the number of bases according to the question. The teacher can decide how many outs each team gets before the other team gets to "bat." Scoring is like regular baseball and the team with the most runs wins.

**Music:**

Sing the following to the tune of "America the Beautiful."

The Israelites came out of sin.  
God made them free that day.  
They headed toward the wilderness.  
God helped them on their way.

God's powerful!  
God's powerful!  
He shows His love each day.  
Come out of sin, and follow Him.  
He'll guide you on your way.

Each year we do as God commands.  
And keep the Holy Days.  
To church we go, to hear the word.  
And learn to live God's way.

God's loving grace!  
God's loving grace!  
Forgiving all our sin.  
Stay on the track, and don't look back.  
God's servants always win!

**MEMORY VERSE:**

1 Corinthians 5:8 "Therefore, let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth."

# BASEBALL QUESTIONS

## SINGLES:

What country did the Israelites leave during the Exodus?

True or false? We cannot eat on the Night to Be Much Observed.

True or false? When the Israelites left Egypt, the Egyptians gave them anything they wanted.

True or false? We cannot eat at a restaurant on The Night to Be Much Observed.

Name one item with leavening in it.

True or false? The Days of Unleavened Bread are in the fall of the year.

True or false? God's way of life is exciting and fun.

True or false? Leaven does not spread through bread dough.

What defines sin?

Who do we ask to forgive our sins?

## DOUBLES:

The Night to Be Much Observed is also at the beginning of which Holy Day?

What is a symbol for sin?

True or false? Pride can puff us up.

True or false? It is OK to have leavening in our school backpacks during the Days of Unleavened Bread.

Why did the Egyptians beg the Israelites to leave Egypt?

True or false? Only Israelites left Egypt during the Exodus.

How were the Israelites able to see where they were going when they left Egypt at night?

On the Night to Be Much Observed what could we do for those who cannot attend church services?

True or false? We can work on the First Day of Unleavened Bread.

What does plundering the Egyptians mean?

## TRIPLES:

The Night to Be Much Observed is on what day of the Hebrew calendar?

What country pictures sin in the Bible?

How does getting rid of physical leavening help us in our lives?

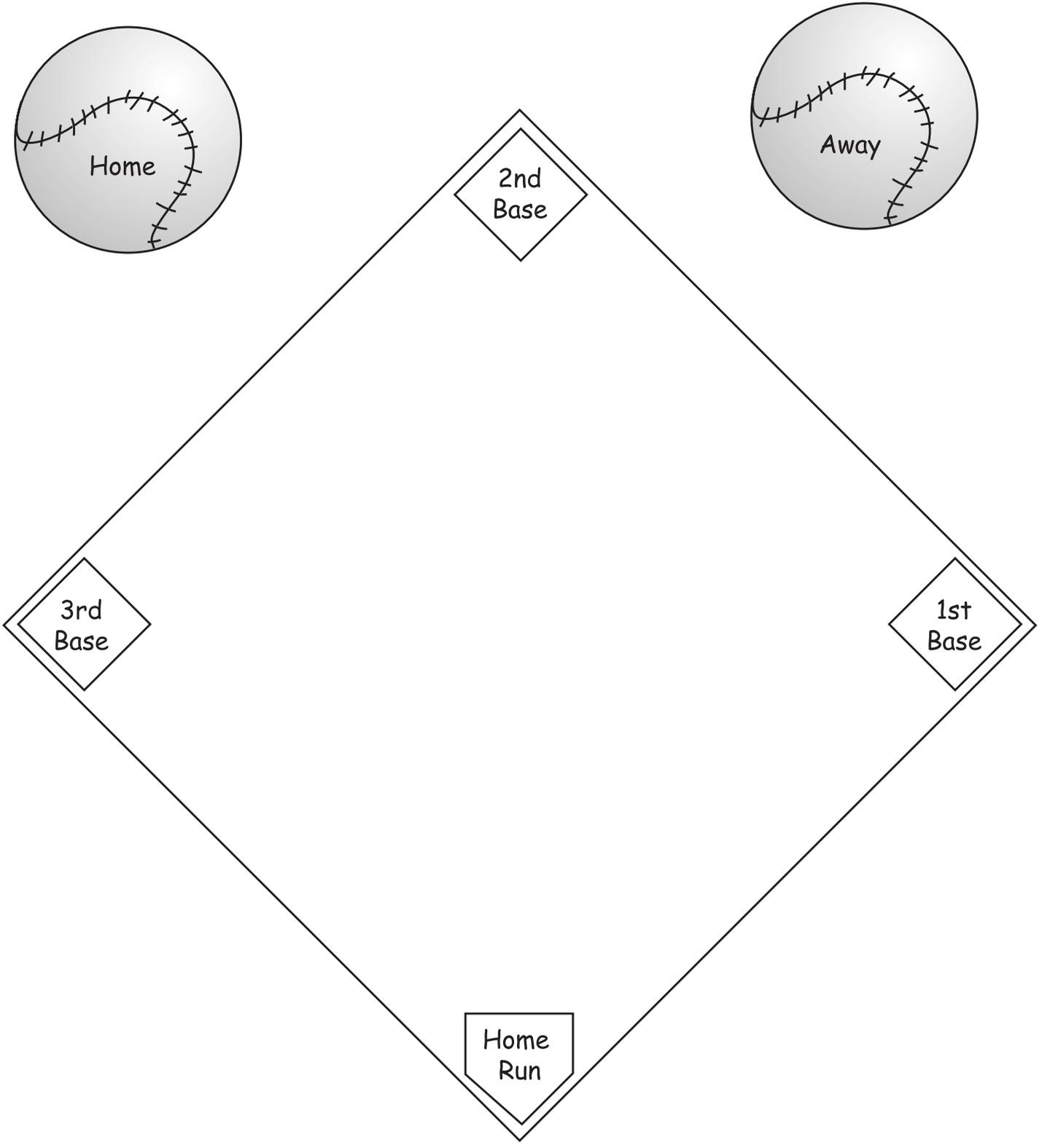
How many years had the Israelites been in Egypt before the Exodus?

About how many men left Egypt during the Exodus?

How long do the Days of Unleavened Bread last?

What is a holy convocation?

How many Holy Days are there during the Days of Unleavened Bread?



# family activity

## THE POINT:

To teach the student about the Night to Be Much Observed and the Days of Unleavened Bread.

## SCRAMBLED WORDS:

Unscramble the words below. Unscramble the circled letters to find the answer to the riddle. The cartoon provides a clue.

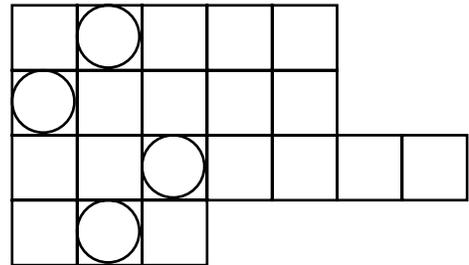


GIHTN

ERABD

BHBSTAA

YAD

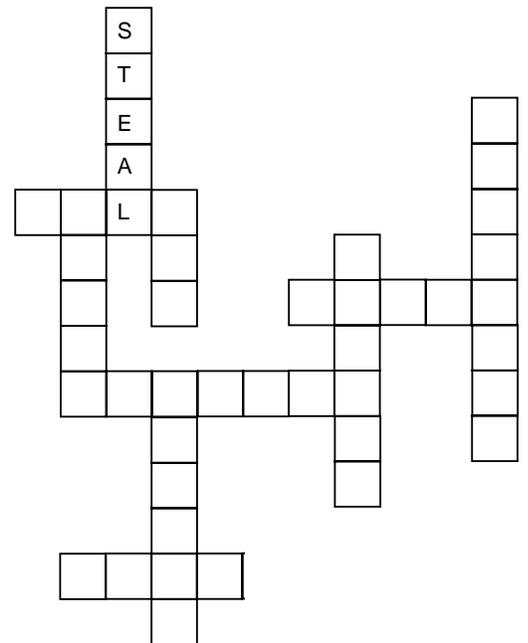


Riddle: He needed this on the Night to Be Much Observed. (It is also another name for the first month of God's calendar.) Answer: \_ \_ \_ \_

## SCRABBLE:

A game of scrabble was played. The Ten Commandments was the theme of the game. See if you can guess what words were used in which locations.

STEAL	IDOLS
ADULTERY	KILL
COVET	LIE
SABBATH	MOTHER
LORD	BEFORE



## FAMILY TOGETHER TIME:

Discuss ways to make the Night to Be Much Observed a special time. Children could create a craft from the many books on the market and give them to the elderly. They could perform a song or a skit, make invitations or place cards for the event. Whatever the idea, help the children become involved with the evening activities.

## MEMORY VERSE:

1 Corinthians 5:8 "Therefore, let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth."

# ANSWERS

## BASEBALL QUESTIONS

### SINGLES

What country did the Israelites leave during the Exodus? **Egypt**

True or false? We cannot eat on the Night to Be Much Observed. **False**

True or false? When the Israelites left Egypt, the Egyptians gave them anything they wanted. **True**

True or false? We cannot eat at a restaurant on The Night to Be Much Observed. **False**

Name one item with leavening in it. **Cookies, cakes, etc.**

True or false? The Days of Unleavened Bread are in the fall of the year. **False**

True or false? God's way of life is exciting and fun. **True**

True or false? Leaven does not spread through bread dough. **False**

What defines sin? **The Ten Commandments**

Who do we ask to forgive our sins? **God**

### DOUBLES

The Night to Be Much Observed is also at the beginning of which Holy Day? **First Day of Unleavened Bread**

What is a symbol for sin? **Leaven**

True or false? Pride can puff us up. **True**

True or false? It is ok to have leavening in our school backpacks during the Days of Unleavened Bread. **False**

Why did the Egyptians beg the Israelites to leave Egypt? **They were afraid of another plague.**

True or false? Only Israelites left Egypt during the Exodus. **False**

How were the Israelites able to see where they were going when they left Egypt at night? **There was a full moon.**

On the Night to Be Much Observed what could we do for those who cannot attend church services? **Take them food, spend the evening with them, etc.**

True or false? We can work on the First Day of Unleavened Bread. **False**

What does plundering the Egyptians mean? **Taking their gold, silver, etc.**

### TRIPLES

The Night to Be Much Observed is on what day of the Hebrew calendar? **15th of Abib.**

What country pictures sin in the Bible? **Egypt**

How does getting rid of physical leavening help us in our lives? **Reminds us to get rid of spiritual sin.**

How many years had the Israelites been in Egypt before the Exodus? **Over 400 years**

About how many men left Egypt during the Exodus? **About 600,000**

How long do the Days of Unleavened Bread last? **Seven days**

What is a holy convocation? **Meeting together for church services**

How many Holy Days are there during the Days of Unleavened Bread? **Two**

**SCRAMBLED WORDS**

Riddle: He needed this on the Night to Be Much Observed. Answer: Abib

GIHTN  
ERABD  
BHBSTAA  
YAD

**NIGHT**  
**BREAD**  
**SABBATH**  
**DAY**

**SCRABBLE**

STEAL  
ADULTERY  
COVET  
SABBATH  
LORD  
IDOLS  
KILL  
LIE  
MOTHER  
BEFORE

