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# PASSOVER

PREPARING FOR PASSOVER

# Preparing for the Seder

Traditionally and Scripturally, Passover is a family celebration. This Haggadah is designed to be simple and reproducible, in hopes that you might celebrate this God-ordained feast year after year with friends and family. There are many other versions available at bookstores and online.

**The most important thing at Passover is to REMEMBER God's story of deliverance and redemption, first of his people Israel from their bondage in Egypt, and then the rest of us from our bondage to sin. He did this through the Passover Lamb.**

**When you collect the follow please don't stress if you can't collect EVERYTHING or have everything formal. If you don't have a lamb shank or chicken bone, draw a picture! This whole meal is to serve as an illustration and teaching tool. We attached recipes at the end of this doc.**

## **What you will need:**

1. **HAGGADAH/Seder Guidebook**— You should have it in the PDF packet you downloaded, if you can print it out or pull the PDF up on your iPad or Tablet to follow along.
2. **2 CANDLES** (optional head covering for the woman lighting the candles)
3. **WINE/JUICE GLASSES** for everyone
4. **CUP OF ELIJAH**—an extra setting is traditionally placed on the table for the Prophet Elijah. We usually use a ornate cup to set his apart.
5. **WINE or GRAPE JUICE**—4 glassfuls for each person
6. **MATZAH**—unleavened bread (crackers) this one may be hard to find in the current situation. *So for this year as alternates I suggest saltine crackers as they are pierced and have the same look as matzah, or Tortillas as they're mostly unleavened and you can toast them to make them crispy like a matzah. (Try to avoid leaven if possible)*
7. **MATZAH-TASH**—a 3-pocketed sack; or 4 napkins/ or a folded paper towel with a matzah board placed between each layer
8. **AFIKOMEN SACK**—a special sack—or napkin—for the center piece of matzah once broken; it will be hidden for the children to find later
9. **BOWL OF WATER and TOWEL**—for hand “washing”
10. **SEDER PLATE**—a special plate with 7 symbolic elements (*you can use any plate and divide the elements like you see below into the sections. Maybe a paper plate and you can write circles and the names on the plate of each element*)  
**Zehroah**—**lamb shank-bone**, to remind us of the Passover lamb (Jesus!)  
*This can be a chicken bone or a picture printed or drawn*  
**Beitzah**—**roasted egg**, to remind us of the daily sacrifices needed to atone for sin. It can also represent the destruction of the Temple and the burning of Jerusalem in 70 AD  
*Hardboiled and baked in the oven or on the BBQ with the shell on*  
**Charoset**—a sweet apple and nut mixture, to remind us of the mortar used by the Hebrew

slaves in Egypt (*recipe attached at the end of pamphlet*)

*The main Ingredients are: apples, bananas, orange juice, grape juice, and cinnamon, with option to add nuts and date.*

**Karpas – Parsley**, to remind us of the sweetness of new life given by God. However it is dipped in salt water to remind us of the sad life the Hebrew slaves experienced.

**Chazeret – Romaine lettuce or thin slices of radish.** They are one of the elements of “bitter herbs,” and remind us of the bitterness of slavery.

**Mahroar – “bitter herbs” or horseradish.** Similar to the chazeret, they also remind us of the bitterness of slavery. *\*slices of the actually root are best, but horseradish paste works too. (ALTERNATE IDEA) If you can't find either raid your kitchen for slices of raw garlic or raw onion.*

**Ma'im Meh-luach–Salt Water**, to remind us of the tears shed by the Hebrew slaves  
*\*Boil water and add cheap table salt and stir in until it no longer assimilates*

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### **Preparing the Dinner.**

At passover there's a line that we eat passover reclining because slaves stood up while eating, ONLY IF YOU WANT, NOT REQUIRED, but it is kinda fun. Instead of sitting up at a table try sitting around the TV and sitting on pillows or cushions in the living room. The kids love it and it makes it a special event. **Otherwise setup the table where you can follow along on the TV or computer that you're streaming from.**

**The main key is to have the TV or Computer ready for streaming in the Passover presentation so you can follow along with us.**

**Our goal is to start the stream by 6pm** (Central Time) and in an amazing feat of technology we all get to partake of the passover in the biggest family dinner of all time connected via video streaming!

**We will have a countdown online around 5:45 (Central Time) so you can setup your computer or smart TV ahead of time, and have everything ready.**

Typically we would have a break in our Seder to eat dinner, but because of the format of streaming and keeping attention, we will go through the ending together and then break for eating dinner.

Snacking on the Matzah and other munchies are encouraged! We will keep the main Seder plate set apart for the ceremony, but we suggest having a stack of common matzah or crackers and the Charoset (apple dates and nut mix, recipe attached) as a good stack while we go through the elements in the Seder.

**The important thing is to HAVE FUN and use this tool to remember what Jesus did for us on this Passover Holiday.**

## SEDAR ELEMENTS



### Searching for the Leaven:

*“For seven days you are to eat bread made without yeast. 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.” Exodus 12:15*

One of the traditions (and God-ordained commandments) of Passover is to remove all leaven from the home, as leaven (yeast) represents sin all throughout Scripture. In the days leading up to Passover, it is customary to search through the home and rid any yeast products. The home is then thoroughly cleaned and made ready for the holiday season. This is the original “spring cleaning.” Throughout the week of Passover, no leavened breads or foods should be eaten.

This also correlates with the soul searching each of us should regularly do for the leaven of sin in our own lives. The apostle Paul exhorts, *“Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup.” (1 Corinthians 11:28 ESV)* Passover, then, presents an excellent opportunity for personal reflection and confession of sin.

Interestingly, Jesus himself did a cleansing of sorts after his “triumphal entry” of Palm Sunday. He entered the temple and threw out the money changers (who he had probably seen many times before). It is easy to make the connection that he was following the Biblical instruction to prepare for Passover by cleansing His Father’s house.

For us we put away the leaven from our home into a container downstairs or in our shop for the week of passover, **again this is NOT about legalism and if you can’t do this, don’t worry it’s all good.** But you can look at it as a way to relate and experience this as a family similar to fasting a item, fasting fluffy bread for passover week.



## Cook your own Passover meal

### Charoset

3 apples (peeled?)

3 bananas

(30) dates

1 c. nuts (almonds, pecans, walnuts...)

2-4 T. lemon juice

2-4 T. orange juice

1 c. grape juice (or dry red wine)

2 t. cinnamon

Matzo meal, as needed

Sugar, as needed

Chop as fine as you want and then mix all together. (Sometimes this is better the next day.)

### Homemade Matzah

4 1/2 cups sifted all-purpose flour, plus more for rolling

1 teaspoon Diamond Crystal kosher salt, plus more for sprinkling

2 tablespoons mild olive oil (or you can substitute canola oil)

3/4 cup plus up to 1/2 cup warm water

Preheat oven to 500 degrees F (260 degrees C) with a baking sheet or pizza stone in the oven.

Dust surface and a rolling pin with 1 teaspoon flour, or as needed. In

a large bowl, mix together all the ingredients, using 3/4 cup water, until everything comes together to form a dough. If the dough seems dry, add a little more water, a few drops at a time. Divide the dough into four equal pieces; cut each piece in half again to get 8 pieces total. Roll each piece into a ball. Roll each piece of dough out into a small pancake, dusting the top and rolling pin with flour as needed. Gradually roll the pancakes out to a size of about 8 inches, increasing the size of each by about 1 inch, then letting the dough rest for a few seconds before rolling again to the finished size. Roll from the center out. **The bread rounds should be very thin.**

**Using a fork, pierce each bread about 25 times, all over, to prevent rising.** Flip the bread over, and pierce each piece another 25 times with the fork.

Remove the hot baking sheet from the preheated oven, and place the rounds onto the baking sheet. Place the baking sheet onto the rack near the top of the oven, and bake for 2 minutes; turn the breads over and bake an additional 2 minutes, until the matzot are lightly browned and crisp. Transfer to a wire rack to cool. Lightly anoint each matzah with olive oil, using a brush, and sprinkle generously with salt.



### **Tortilla Matzah** (*for those who can't get store bought or cook their own, this is the easiest.*)

Take Tortillas, pierce them with your fork or other device. Then just put tortillas in oven to toast until golden. The holes pierced will help them not puff up as much and give the traditional pierced look we refer to, and the browning will crisp it just like a matzah to break.

**These Recipes below are TOTALLY OPTIONAL, you don't need them to prepare for your Seder experience.**

**But if you wanted to give some of these traditional recipes a try we included them below.**

**Matzo Ball Soup  
(Soup)**

- 1 lb. chicken pieces (legs and wings)
- 2 carrots
- 1 onion
- 2 celery stalks (including leaves)
- 1 bay leaves
- 6-8 peppercorns
- 1 bunches parsley
- 1 qt. water (more or less)



Remove excess fat from chicken pieces. Coarsely chop vegetables. Place chicken, spices, and water in a pot and bring to boil. Turn heat down and simmer slowly for 1 hour. Skin chicken. Add vegetables and matzo balls and continue simmering until chicken is tender (another 1 hour or so). Adjust seasonings.

**(Matzo Balls)**

- 2 T vegetable oil
- 2 eggs
- 1 c. matzo meal
- 2 T soup stock
- 1 t. Salt, as needed

Blend oil and eggs together. Mix matzo meal and salt together. Add matzo mix to egg mix and blend well. Then add soup stock and mix until uniform. Cover mixing bowl and refrigerate for 15 minutes.

Make balls, approximately 1 inch in diameter, and place in soup. Simmer (covered) for 30-40 minutes.

**Add Matzo balls into Soup and enjoy!**

**Israeli Salad**

Red bell peppers, yellow bell peppers, cucumber in a ratio of 2:1:1

Salt, pepper, olive oil to taste

(You could also add tomatoes and onion)

Chop fine and mix together. Serve with matzo crackers, etc.



**Passover Macaroons**

- 1 1/3 c. coconut
- 1/3 c. sugar
- 2 egg whites

- 1/8 t. salt
- 3 T. matzo meal
- t. almond extract

Mix all ingredients together until well blended. Drop by teaspoonfuls on greased and potato starched cookie sheets. Bake at 325 for 20 minutes (or until golden around the edges). Remove from cookie sheet immediately and place on platter to cool.

They freeze well. You could add chocolate or cherries to the batter, or dip in chocolate after baking. At other times of year, substitute flour for matzo meal.

