

# A Devotion for Bread Baking

## Faith Talk/Caring Conversation: *Adults and kids, share with each other...*

- Memories you have of bread baking with someone special?
- OR
- One or two new things you learned (or were reminded of) from First Communion Instruction.

## Devotion/Bible Time:

### **Review Exodus 12 from your Bibles, the story of the Passover.**

God did lots of things to show Pharaoh that God was the REAL God and not Pharaoh. (Remember that the Egyptian people believed that Pharaoh was a god.) God wanted Pharaoh to release the Israelites from slavery. But no matter what God did, no matter how many plagues were released on Egypt, Pharaoh kept saying he would not let God's people go. So God sent a final, terrible plague: the death of every Egyptian firstborn son. God wanted to protect the Israelites from this plague. The Passover meal was that protection.

- What did God ask the Israelites to eat?
- What did God ask the Israelites to do?
- Do you think the Israelites would have been scared?

Every family that put lamb's blood on the sides and tops of their doorframes was protected from the plague. After this plague, Pharaoh finally released the Israelites from slavery. Through this meal, God promised the Israelites that God would always protect and save them. God commanded them to keep that meal for all time; to remember the story; to retell it to their families for all generations; and never to forget God's promises. This is the Passover or the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

### **Review the story of Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples—Matthew 26:17-30; Mark 14:12-26; Luke 22:1-23; or 1 Corinthians 11:23-26.**

A thousand years after the first Passover, Jesus and his disciples were still keeping that special meal and remembering God's promises. But during that last supper with his disciples, Jesus began to change some of the words and traditions that had been around for a long, long time.

- Do you remember what Jesus and his disciples ate for that last Passover meal?
- What did Jesus say about the bread?
- What did he say about the wine?

In the Passover meal, the Israelites (the people today who are Jewish) remembered the lamb that was killed when God rescued the Israelites; how its blood marked the homes of God's people; and how God kept promises to the Israelites always to protect and save them. **But Jesus told his disciples that the bread was his body; that the wine was his blood; and that HE was the sacrificial lamb whose blood would mark God's people.** The promises that God made to the Israelite people was now being offered to ANYONE who trusted and believed that Jesus is indeed the God's love, mercy, and grace made visible. **And that includes YOU and anyone else who participates in Holy Communion; who remembers God's love for them in Jesus; and who eats the bread that is Jesus' body and drinks the wine that is his blood.**

**A Prayer to Share Together—We thank you, God of Love, that you make and keep your promises to your people. We thank you that you have made your promises visible in Jesus' body and blood, the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper. Help us always to trust and believe in your presence in our lives. We ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**Service Time:** Baking communion bread together

South Santiago Lutheran Church

### **Our Mission:**

*"Teaching the Word. Reaching the World"*

**We will pursue our mission in this way:**

- **We are a congregation whose core values seek changed lives through the power of the Holy Spirit by forming and sustaining life-long personal faith in God through Christ Jesus.**
- **We implement this by engaging in cross-generational ministry and radical hospitality as it is revealed by God's Word, connecting to others within our congregation, our community and the world.**



While you are baking the bread, take time to review some of what you learned from First Communion Instruction:

Different words for Holy  
Communion:

Pharaoh

Passover

Slavery

Parts of the Passover meal

Exodus

Plagues (how many, what were  
some)

Lamb's blood

Moses

Sacraments

**Ritual/Blessing:** After the bread is baked, lay your hands on the bread and bless it with the following blessing. Be creative in how you do it...maybe alternate between adults and kids, etc.

**God of Love, we ask you in the name of your Son Jesus Christ, to bless this bread to the hearts, minds, and souls of all who will eat it.**

**May all who eat it, hear of your love for them in the Word that is spoken in worship.**

**May all who eat it, experience your invitation to gather us all together in your love.**

**May all who eat it, trust that they are forgiven because of Jesus.**

**May all who eat it, be made new, fed and strengthened for all they may face in their daily lives.**

**May all who eat it, be filled with the presence of Jesus, to be the presence of Jesus in their daily lives.**

**We ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.**