

4. Jesus Breaks the Bread (Mark 14:12-26)

If I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you too must wash each other's feet.
(John 13:14)



PLAN

Session Outline

1. Gather

Greeting
Communion Painting
Bread-Baking Play
Transition to Explore

2. Explore

Sacred Conversations
Hear and See the Bible Story
Interact with the Bible Story
Say the Bible Verse
Transition to Respond

3. Respond

Loving God,
Loving Neighbor
Sharing Plates
Breaking Bread
Transition to Bless

4. Bless

Inviting
Praising
Blessing
At Home with God

Supplies

Basic Supplies: Masking tape | Stickers | Markers | Crayons | Pencils | Glue | Construction Paper | Scissors

Gather: Pretend baking tools | Aprons | Washable tempera paints | Paintbrushes | Smocks or large t-shirts

Explore: No additional supplies needed

Respond: Small, clear plastic plates | Colorful tissue paper scraps | 1-inch wide paint or sponge brushes | White glue | Napkins | Bread (a variety of types)

Bless: No additional supplies needed

Before You Teach

Many of the stories we know about Jesus' ministry involve a meal of some kind. There is the wedding feast at Cana where Jesus turns water into wine, the feeding of the five thousand, and the stories of Jesus eating with tax collectors and sinners. The act of eating together fostered fellowship between Jesus and his disciples, the crowds, and the outcasts. Perhaps the most well-known meal Jesus and his disciples shared is the one we refer to as the Last Supper or the Lord's Supper.

Jesus sent his disciples into Jerusalem to prepare for the Passover meal. The guest room that Jesus and his disciples used is described in Luke as a large upstairs room, probably accessible by an outside staircase. Since Jews traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover celebration, such rooms were not uncommon and were rented to visitors to Jerusalem.

During the meal, the conversation took a serious turn as Jesus began to speak of the disciple who would betray him. Jesus was trying to prepare his disciples for his death. As we read this story we have the advantage of knowing what will happen next. The disciples, however, did not appear to understand what Jesus was talking about. As Jesus offered the bread to his disciples, he asked them to remember him as they ate it. When Jesus offered the cup to his disciples, he referred to it as the new covenant. God had made a covenant with Moses and the Israelites when God gave them the Ten Commandments. Jesus indicated that through him God was making a new covenant.

We don't have to wait for Communion to remember Jesus. Each time you share a meal with someone, remember all of the meals Jesus shared with his disciples and other followers. Fellowshiping is one way we follow Jesus' command to love one another.

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GATHER

Greeting

Before class: Display the Attendance Chart (Class Kit—pp. 15–18) at eye level. Put together the model of the zoo and the figures of Benjie, Cinnamon, and the baby elephant (Class Kit—p. 9). Provide smocks or large t-shirts to protect the children's clothing.

- Play, “A Whole New Level of Love” (Annual Music CD or Adventure DVD and Leader Guide—p. 91) as you welcome each child.
 - Show the children where to place their offerings, and help each child mark the Attendance Chart with a sticker or permanent marker.
 - Place the Deep Blue Shores Map (Class Kit—p. 11) and the zoo and Benjie, Cinnamon, and baby elephant figures (Class Kit—p. 9) on a table or on the floor for the children to play with and explore. If available, add the Deep Blue Shores Maps, buildings, and figures from previous quarters.
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A—Communion Painting (Art)

Before class: Make a copy of the “Communion Painting” (p. 30) for each child.

- Give each child a copy of “Communion Painting” (p. 30) and have the child cut out the cup and bread shapes.
 - Have the child roll pieces of masking tape and use them to secure his or her cup and bread shapes to a sheet of construction paper.
 - Give each child a smock or large t-shirt to wear.
 - Give the children washable tempera paints and paintbrushes, and encourage them to paint over the bread and cup shapes, covering the entire sheet of construction paper.
 - Allow the children's artwork to dry. Show the children how to carefully remove the cup and bread shapes and the tape to reveal the artwork they created using negative space.
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OR

B—Bread-Baking Play (Dramatic Play)

Before class: Set up a bread-baking dramatic play area using pretend baking tools and aprons.

- Invite the children to explore the bread-baking dramatic play area you set up. Encourage them to take turns pouring, mixing, kneading, and baking.
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Transition to Explore

- Have the children help you clean up and then move quietly to the Bible story circle.

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EXPLORE

Sacred Conversations

SAY: During the season of Lent, the time our faith communities prepare for the season of Easter, we are learning stories about Jesus and his faith community. I wonder what we can learn from them.

ASK: I wonder:

- How many friends are here with us today? Who is missing?
 - How do you feel today?
 - What's one thing that happened in your community this week that you really liked?
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Hear and See the Bible Story

SAY: Today our Bible story is about a meal that Jesus shared with his disciples.

- Tell the children the story, "Jesus Breaks the Bread" (*Deep Blue Bible Storybook*—p. 288).
- Watch the Deep Blue Adventure for Session 4 (Adventure DVD) with the children.

ASK: When have you had a special meal with your friends?

Interact with the Bible Story

- Give each child a copy of "Jesus Breaks the Bread" (Bible Story Sheets—Session 4).
- Read the story with the children, encouraging them to read the words in blue.

TIP: Printable "Word Cards" for the words in blue are available each quarter to download and print at www.deepbluekids.com/This-Sunday.

Say the Bible Verse

Before class: Post the Bible Verse Poster—Unit 1 (Class Kit—p. 3) on a wall or bulletin board.

- Point to the Bible Verse Poster. Say the Bible verse for the children, and then repeat it together.
 - Teach the children signs from American Sign Language for some of the words in the Bible verse (Leader Guide—p. 94 and www.deepbluekids.com/This-Sunday).
 - Watch the Unit 1 Bible Verse video (Adventure DVD) with the children.
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Transition to Respond

- Have the children move to the next activity as though they are carefully carrying a jar of water like the man the two disciples followed.

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RESPOND

Loving God, Loving Neighbor

Before class: Post "All Are Welcome" (Class Kit—p. 27) and "Meet Our Neighbors" (Class Kit—p. 13) on a wall or bulletin board.

- Play, "All Are Welcome" (Annual Music CD or Adventure DVD). Sing along and dance to the music.

SAY: Jesus ate a special meal with his friends. We remember that meal when we have Holy Communion together.

ASK: Have you ever taken Holy Communion? What was it like? How did it taste? What did you feel?

A— Sharing Plates (Activity Sheets)

- Give each child four clear, plastic plates and a copy of Activity Sheets—Session 4.
 - Invite the children to create plates according to the instructions.
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OR

B—Breaking Bread (Snack)

Before class: Always check for allergies and have the children wash their hands before activities involving food. Purchase a variety of bread.

- Place a variety of breads in the center of the table.
- Give each child a napkin.
- Describe each type of bread to the children, and give them a small piece of each kind to taste.

SAY: Which type of bread did you like best? Which type did you like least? Why?

Transition to Bless

- Have the children help you clean up and then move to the Bible story circle as though they are very full after a big meal.

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BLESS

Inviting

Before class: Cut out the Walking with Jesus Mural Pieces (Class Kit—p. 19) and place them in an envelope or zip-top bag. Post the Walking with Jesus Mural (Class Kit—pp. 2 & 31) on a wall or bulletin board. Prepare one or two pictures of people in your church, family, or community to add to the mural.

- Gather the children around the mural. Invite a child to tape the image of some of the disciples (**E**) eating a meal at a table anywhere on the mural.

ASK: What do you remember about the Bible story we heard today? What do you think we can learn about community from this story?

SAY: In the coming weeks, we will be adding more pictures of people from the Bible who knew Jesus. Some of them knew Jesus before Easter, and some didn't know Jesus until after Easter. We know Jesus too! I wonder who you can think of who is "Walking with Jesus" like the people in our Bible stories.

- Tell the children about the pictures you prepared before class, and then tape the pictures to the mural. Invite children who brought in their own pictures to tell about them and add them to the mural. Remind the children that they are invited to bring their own pictures of people who are "Walking with Jesus" to add to the mural next week.
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Praising

Before class: Display "Singing Together" (Class Kit—p. 25) on a wall or bulletin board.

- Sing together, "Be Present at Our Table, Lord" (Class Kit—p. 25).

TIP: If time permits, invite the children to choose more songs to sing.

Blessing

- Invite the children to stand with you in a circle.
 - Turn to the child next to you and say, "Peace be with you." Have the child respond by saying, "And also with you" and then turn to the next child and say, "Peace be with you." Continue around the circle giving each child a chance to say both lines. Then conclude by saying, "Amen."
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At Home with God

ASK: What's one thing about our time today that you can tell your family?

- Give each child a copy of Bible Story Sheets—Session 4. Look at "Family Faith Activities" together.

ASK: Which of these activities are you most excited to try this week?

- Send home the Bible Story Sheets—Session 4 with each child.

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Communion Painting

