

Passover

Passover is said to have first began back in the days of Moses and the ancient Israelites. After Moses was no longer a royal in the house of Pharaoh, God had anointed him because God's people were still suffering as slaves in Egypt. Their cries for justice moved God's heart! He sent his servant Moses and his brother Aaron to ask Pharaoh to let God's people go. But because Pharaoh was evil, he refused to do what God had commanded him to do. Time after time Moses would go to Pharaoh in the name of the Lord to let the Israelites go. But Pharaoh still would not listen. God decided that he would send 10 plagues to the land of Egypt so that Pharaoh would know that the God Moses and the Israelites served was real and He was very serious about this. The Lord turned the water to blood. Frogs and wild animals ran in and out of homes at their designed times. Balls of hail fell from the sky and bugs, called locusts, ate all of the Egyptians' food! But Pharaoh would not listen. So God sent more plagues. The tenth and final plague was the one that made Pharaoh let the Israelites go—he had lost his son to the plague. This tenth plague is what is known as *the Passover* which we celebrate today, because it was also the day the Israelites were set free! This transition is usually celebrated with fasting from things that are unleavened and prayer to God for setting His people free. Later on, a feast of unleavened bread, lamb meat and few desserts would be prepared in which family would come over to celebrate.

Passover usually starts close to the end of March and ends in the early days of April.

QUIZ TIME!

1. Was Pharaoh a good person?
2. Who did God send to free His people?
3. Were the Israelites slaves to Egypt?

ACTIVITIES

1. ***Make unleavened bread:***

It would be nice to show your children how to make unleavened bread and let them help with the process. You can use cookie cutters to make them more appealing but it is also important to teach them about simplicity.

2. ***Watch or read the story of Moses:***

You can get your children familiar with Passover by allowing them to go in depth on it in a kid-friendly way.

(pjlibrary.org has a very kid-friendly version of it).

3. ***Do a simple skit:***

You can reenact the story of Moses or color some coloring pages that tell you all about it.

(You may want to do all of this in one day, or find a way to entangle it into other Activities—since Passover week is also *Holy Week*).