

STORIES WITHIN THE TRUE STORY

**Week Ten - The Passover****A Note to the Parents/Teachers**

The Passover was a pivotal moment in Israel's history, as well as for the early Christian church. This story was passed down to children for generations to remember how God had saved His people, and that He would do it again. Pray for kids to not only understand what happened before, but how it points forward to salvation through Jesus.

- **Big Idea:** God rescues His people!

Starter

- **Evidences of Grace**

Take some time to ask kids to share ways they've seen God at work this week, month, or even past year. Anything, big or small, that is good is from God. When a kid shares, encourage everyone to thank God together.

- **Duck, Duck, Goose**

You may choose to play Duck, Duck, Goose with the kids for fun. When the game's over tell them that just as the person would pass over 'ducks' and finally select a 'goose', today's story shows God's judgement passing over those who trusted Him and coming on those who did not.

Sing Together

Story - from Exodus 11-12

After God sent nine plagues on Egypt and Pharaoh still refused to listen, Moses confronted Pharaoh. *“Here is what God says:*

‘At midnight I will go through Egypt and every firstborn child will die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh, who sits on his throne, to the firstborn of the slave girl working at her hand mill. Also the firstborn of animals. Crying will erupt all over the country, wailing such as has never been and never will be again. But against the Israelites—man, woman, or animal—there won’t be so much as a dog’s bark, so that you’ll know that God makes a clear distinction between you and His people.’”

God told Moses and Aaron to say to Israel, *“Make this the first month of the year for you. It’s a new start. Tell all of Israel to take a lamb for each family. It must be a pure, healthy male lamb, one year old. Slaughter it, then take some of the blood and smear it on the doorposts of your home. Roast the meat and eat it that night, along with bread made without yeast, and bitter herbs. Don’t leave any of it for morning; if there are leftovers, burn them in the fire. Be fully dressed with your sandals on and your stick in hand. Eat in a hurry. I will go through Egypt on this night and strike down every firstborn, whether human or animal, and bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I AM God.*

The blood on your homes will serve as a sign. When I see the blood I will pass over you—no harm will touch you.

This will be a memorial day for you; you will celebrate it as a festival to God through the generations, to be observed always. This marks the day I brought you out from the land of Egypt. And when your children ask, ‘Why are we doing this?’ tell them the story of how I rescued you.”

The people bowed and worshiped, then went and did all God commanded. Sure enough, God did as He said. Pharaoh called in Moses and Aaron that very night and said, *“Get out of here and be done with you—you and your Israelites! Go worship God on your own terms. And yes, take your sheep and cattle as you’ve insisted, but go. And bless me.”*

The Egyptians couldn’t wait to get rid of them; they pushed them to hurry up and gave them their gold and silver as they left. The Israelites had lived in Egypt 430 years. At the end of the 430 years, to the very day, God’s people were free.

Many years later, another sacrifice was made for God’s people. This time, from the pure firstborn Son of God. His blood allows death to pass over anyone who trusts in him, whether Egyptian or Israelite, or anyone else.

[Dialogue Questions - you may use some or all]

- Why would God do something so harsh like kill the firstborn of the Egyptians? *[Remember, Pharaoh killed all the baby boys of Israel. Egypt was cruel to Israel and made them slaves and treated them terribly. Pharaoh refused to listen to God even though He gave multiple warnings]*
- God gave a way for death to ‘pass over’ Israel. Why do you think He wanted them to put the blood of a lamb over their doors? *[The sacrifice of animals would cover people’s sin. This act required God’s people to trust His words by doing what He asked. God has only ever wanted our trust.]*
- Israel continued sacrificing animals so God’s discipline would pass over them for generations. One day, the blood of Jesus covered those who trust him forever. Why do you think Jesus’ blood put an end to animal blood sacrifice? *[Jesus is the most pure sacrifice. His blood is way more valuable than an animals. He rose again and lives forever, so our sacrifice in Him is eternal!]*

Breakout Time

- **Prayer:**
God, thank You that death passes over us now because of the blood of Jesus which covers us! Amen.
- **Craft:**
Use popsicle sticks to glue together a doorway and color them with red
OR
Use the coloring sheet attached
- **BLESS Activity:** **For kids to do during the week**
Because this Story is true, we want to be faithful to live in it. We ask Spirit to help us Bless, Listen, Eat, Speak, and Sabbath (rest & celebrate) in ways that tell the good news of God’s Story.

This week, focus on the **Eat** rhythm. Who can you share a meal with this week and talk about the ways God has provided for us?

“King Jesus is our Passover lamb, sacrificed for us.”
- 1 Corinthians 5:7

