



Sermon Discussion Guide

New Passover, New Covenant – Jonathan Lytle
March 16, 2026

Hook - Getting to know one another

- *How is everyone doing this week?*
- *What are some traditions you have had in your life, either in childhood or in your life as an adult? Holiday traditions with family? Polar plunges with friends? A nightly cup of tea?*
- *Why do you have these traditions? What do they help you remember or celebrate?*

Book – Scripture

Read **Mark 14:12-25**. This week's passage and sermon was about the Passover meal Jesus had with his disciples ... a meal that became known in the Christian church as The Last Supper. In this passage, Jesus is taking a tradition practiced for centuries by the Jewish people, and reimagining it in a prophetic way.

- *What was the Passover meal supposed to remind the Jewish people of every time they celebrated it? (If it's helpful, look at the abbreviated list **below** of elements that were included in a Pesach (Passover) meal to practice remembrance.)*
- *How did remembering this sad, dark time in their history serve as an instrument of hope for Jewish people who celebrated it?*
- *To the Jewish people in Jesus's day, a people living under Roman rule, how might the remembrance of the Passover be especially poignant, even hopeful? If Jesus truly was the Messiah, what might they expect him to do to repeat or echo the Exodus story?*
- *How do you think they felt, or were thinking, when Jesus equated the bread in the Pesach meal to his body, and the wine to his blood?*



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Look - Connections to our world today

- *The Passover meal remembered freedom from slavery in Egypt. What kinds of slaveries exist today in the world at large? In our own lives? What do we need rescuing from?*
- *When Jesus's prophetic reimagining of the Passover meal became a reality (with his death and resurrection), he did not end up overthrowing the Romans or regaining the nation of Israel for the Jewish people. How did (and does) his death and resurrection rescue us and the world from contemporary forms of slavery?*
- *Why is it important for us today to remember what Jesus did 2000 years ago? How are we to find **hope** in such remembrance?*
- *If we have been rescued from various forms of slavery, how are we to put our own rescue stories to work in God's kingdom?*

Took - Personal Application

- *Can you remember the first time you took communion? (Be sensitive to the fact that there may be people in your group who have never taken communion.)*
- *Can you remember the things at that time of your life that you felt like you needed to be rescued from? How does this give you **hope** today?*
- *How does it help to know that people all around the world also take communion on Sundays?*
- *How can you take your own redemptive story and put it to work in God's kingdom today?*



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Time of Prayer

Elements of remembrance and hope in a Pesach meal:

- An appetizer of vegetables dipped in salt water to remember the tears of slavery in Egypt.
- The unleavened bread is broken, representing the “bread of affliction” ... the broken world of slavery in contrast to freedom.
- The retelling of the story of slavery in Egypt and God’s rescue... teaching and reminding the next generation.
- The eating of bitter herbs, remembering the bitterness of slavery.
- A shank bone (meat of some kind) to represent the lamb that was slain to save the lives of God’s people on the night of Passover.
- Closing the meal with a last cup of wine and the phrase “Next Year in Jerusalem.” This is a phrase of **hope** ... that maybe next year, freedom will come...the world will be set right... people can return to their homes.