



**Bible Point** ▶

# Jesus died for us, and he wants us to remember him.

## Bible Verse

“Jesus died and was raised to life again” (1 Thessalonians 4:14a).

## Growing Closer to Jesus

- Children will
- talk about things they remember,
  - hear the story of the Last Supper,
  - create a visual reminder together, and
  - name ways they’ll remember Jesus this week.

## Teacher Enrichment

### Bible Basis

#### ■ Jesus shares a special meal with his friends.



**Luke  
22:7-20**

Jews in Jesus’ day thought of the coming of the Messianic kingdom as a great banquet. This idea is most likely what lies behind Jesus’ parable of the wedding banquet in Matthew 22:1-14. When Jesus comes again to establish the kingdom in its fullness, the deliverance symbolized by the Passover meal will be complete and he will again enjoy intimate fellowship—like the fellowship between good

friends who share a meal together—with believers from all generations.

In Luke 22:20, Jesus states that the cup is a new covenant made in his sacrifice for us. In the ancient world, covenants were confirmed through the slaughter of an animal. Thus, the original covenant between God and his people required animal sacrifices to atone for sins. The new covenant was promised in the Old Testament as a way for people to have their sins removed and to truly know and serve God (Jeremiah 31:31-34). Jesus gave his life for us so that this new covenant could be established. By observing the Last Supper, Christians commemorate Christ’s death and demonstrate gratitude for this new covenant (1 Corinthians 11:26).

### Prayer

- Read Exodus 12:26-27.
- Has anyone ever asked you what the significance of the Lord’s Supper is?
- How would you answer if asked?
- Pray: Lord, thank you for Jesus—the ultimate Passover sacrifice. Help the children understand the significance of his sacrifice as we...

## Before the Lesson

- Collect the necessary items for the activities you plan to use, referring to the Classroom Supplies and Learning Lab Supplies listed on the chart.
- Make photocopies of the “Today I Learned...” handout (at the end of this lesson) to send home with your children.
- Pray for the children in your class and for God’s direction as you teach the lesson.

## This Lesson at a Glance

	What Children Will Do	Classroom Supplies	Learning Lab Supplies
<b>Welcome Time</b>	<b>Welcome!</b> —Receive name tags, and be greeted by the teacher.	“Easter Lily Name Tags” (p. 10), scissors, marker, safety pins or tape	
<b>Let’s Get Started</b>  Direct children to one or more of the optional activities until everyone arrives.	<b>Option 1: Make Your Favorite Meal</b> —Pretend to cook meals for each other.	Play dishes and cooking utensils	
	<b>Option 2: Find a House</b> —Look for hidden houses.	Magazine pictures of houses, scissors	
	<b>Option 3: Color Memory</b> —Play a concentration memory game with colors.	Index cards, colored markers	
	<b>Pick-Up Time</b> —Sing a song as they pick up toys and gather for Bible Story Time.	CD player	
<b>Bible Story Time</b>	<b>Setting the Stage</b> —Share things they remember, and learn that Jesus wants us to remember him.		
	<b>Bible Song and Prayer Time</b> —Sing a song, bring out the Bible, and pray together.	Bible, CD player	
	<b>Hear and Tell the Bible Story</b> —Hear from Luke 22:7-20 what Peter and John remember about their last meal with Jesus.	Bible, CD player	
	<b>Do the Bible Story</b> —Create a colorful picture to help them remember Jesus.	“We Remember” (p. 46), sheet of heavy paper, white glue, scissors, tape	
<b>Closing</b>  	<b>Easter Egg Memories</b> —Teach Whiskers a way to remember Jesus when he looks for Easter eggs.		
	<b>I’ll Remember</b> —Learn a song to help them remember Jesus.	Bible, CD player	

\*See the end of this lesson for extra-time ideas and supplies.

## Welcome Time

**SUPPLIES:** “Easter Lily Name Tags” (p. 10), scissors, marker, safety pins or tape

- Kneel down and make eye contact with children as they arrive.
- Greet each child individually with an enthusiastic smile.
- Thank each child for coming to class today.
- As children arrive, ask them how they put what they learned last week into practice. Use questions such as “What did you tell your family about Jesus’ parade into Jerusalem?” or “How did you praise Jesus last week?”
- Say: **Today we’re going to learn that ► Jesus died for us, and he wants us to remember him.**
- Hand out the Easter lily name tags children made during Lesson 1, and help them attach the name tags to their clothing. If some of the name tags were damaged or if children weren’t in class that week, have them make new name tags using the photocopyable handout.
- Direct children to the Let’s Get Started activities you’ve set up.



### ◀ BIBLE POINT



**teacher tips**  
The Bible Basis gives you background information you’ll need to teach the lesson. Read the Bible story ahead of time to familiarize yourself with key details.

## Let’s Get Started

Set up one or more of the following activities for children to do as they arrive. After you greet each child, invite him or her to choose an activity.

Circulate between the activities to offer help as needed, and direct children’s conversation toward the point of today’s lesson. Ask questions such as “What’s your favorite food?” or “When have you had a special meal?”

### ■ **Option 1: Make Your Favorite Meal**

**SUPPLIES:** play dishes and cooking utensils

Set up a kitchen area in your classroom. Provide play dishes and cooking utensils. Have children take turns pretending to prepare their favorite meals. Let the child who chooses the meal assign meal-preparation tasks to other children. For example, if a child wants to prepare hamburgers, he or she could ask someone to make hamburger patties, someone to cook the hamburgers, someone to toast hamburger buns, and someone to set the table. Tell children that today’s Bible story is about a time Jesus shared a special meal with his friends.



**teacher tips**  
If you have pretend food in your kitchen area, let children “prepare” it during this activity.

### ■ **Option 2: Find a House**

**SUPPLIES:** magazine pictures of houses, scissors

Before class, cut out pictures of houses from magazines. Hide the pictures in your classroom.

Have children look for the hidden pictures. As they search, tell them that today’s Bible story is about a time Jesus asked his friends to find a house where they’d have a special meal together.

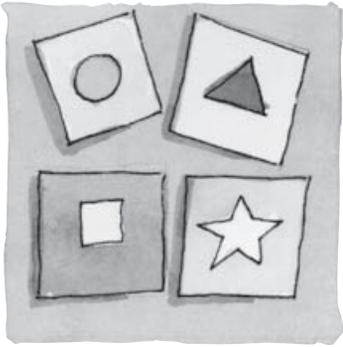
After children find all the houses, let them take turns hiding houses for each other to find until you're ready to move on to the next activity.

### ■ Option 3: Color Memory

**SUPPLIES:** index cards, colored markers

Before class, count out 24 index cards, and place them in pairs. Use a colored marker to draw a simple shape, such as a circle, square, triangle, or star on each pair of cards. Each pair of cards should have its own shape and color. For example, if you're using four different shapes, then you should have three different-colored pairs of each shape.

Mix the cards, and then lay them on a table or floor, face down. Let children take turns turning over pairs of cards to look for matching shapes and colors. As they play the game, encourage them to remember where they saw certain cards. Explain that today's Bible story is about something Jesus wants us to remember. Tell them that ► Jesus died for us, and he wants us to remember him.



When everyone has arrived and you're ready to move on to Bible Story Time, encourage the children to finish what they're doing and get ready to clean up.

### ■ Pick-Up Time

**SUPPLIES:** CD player



Lead children in singing "Come Along With Me" (track 2) with the CD to the tune of "Come and Go With Me." Encourage children to sing along as they help clean up the room.



**Come along with me and pick up all our things,  
Pick up all our things,  
Pick up all our things.  
Come along with me and pick up all our things  
So our room will be clean.**

*(Repeat 2x.)*

## Bible Story Time

### ■ Setting the Stage

**SUPPLIES:** none

Tell children you'll turn the lights off and then on again to get their attention. Explain that when you flash the lights, the children are to stop what they're doing and be quiet. Encourage children to respond quickly so you'll have time for all the fun activities you've planned.

Say: **Think about what you did when you first came to class today. Tell me what you remember about those things.**

Encourage children to provide you with lots of details about their Let's Get Started activities. Prompt them with questions, such as "Who helped you prepare your favorite meal?" "Where did you find the pictures of houses?" or "How many matching pairs of cards did you find?" Encourage all the children to answer.

Then say: **Wow! You all have very good memories. Let's see what else you can remember.**

Form pairs, and then say: **In a minute, I'd like you to tell your partner about a birthday party you remember. It could be your birthday party or someone else's. Tell your partner what you did at that party. When I say "go," I'd like the partner who's wearing the most blue to start. Then when I flash the lights, it will be the other partner's turn to talk. Go.**

Allow about 30 seconds for the first partner to talk; then flash the lights and let the other partner talk. Flash the lights again to regain children's attention. Say: **Now I'd like you to tell your partner about a special trip you went on. Maybe you went to the zoo, or your family drove to another state to visit your grandparents. When I say "go," I'd like the partner who's wearing the most red to start. Then when I flash the lights, it will be the other partner's turn to talk. Go.**

Allow about 30 seconds for the first partner to talk; then flash the lights and let the other partner talk. Flash the lights again to regain children's attention. Then ask:

- **Who can remember what your partner told you about?**

Let several children tell about their partners' trips, and then say: **Aren't you glad we can remember good times we've had? We can even remember things that happened a long time ago. God gave us bright minds to think and remember. And God wants us to remember all the good things Jesus has done for us. Can you remember some Bible stories you've heard about Jesus?**

Let children respond, and then continue: **We can remember lots of wonderful things about Jesus. There's one special thing Jesus asks us to remember: ► Jesus died for us, and he wants us to remember him. Our Bible verse says, ► "Jesus died and was raised to life again." It's important to remember what Jesus did for us! Let's bring out our Bible and learn more about that now.**



## ■ Bible Song and Prayer Time

*SUPPLIES: Bible, CD player*



tracks 3, 4

Say: **Now it's time to choose a Bible person to bring me the Bible marked with today's Bible story. As we sing our Bible song, we'll pass around our special Bible. The person who's holding the Bible when the music stops will be our Bible person today.**

Lead children in singing "I'm So Glad for the Bible" (track 3) with the CD to the tune of "Give Me Oil in My Lamp." As you sing, pass around the special Bible.



I'm so glad for the Bible,  
Keep me learnin', learnin', learnin'.  
I'm so glad for God's book today.  
I'm so glad for the Bible,  
Keep me learnin', learnin', learnin'—  
Keep me learnin' all about his way.

Let me hear 'bout God's love—  
Keep me learnin', learnin', learnin'.  
Let me hear 'bout God's love for me.  
Let me hear 'bout God's love—  
Keep me learnin', learnin', learnin'.  
Let's shine the light for all to see.

(Repeat first verse.)

When the music stops, invite the child who's holding the Bible to bring it to you. Stamp the child's hand with the *hosanna stamp*, and thank the child for bringing you the Bible. Then stamp the other children's hands. Return the *hosanna stamp* and *ink pad* to the Learning Lab.

Say: **I'm thankful for** [name of child who brought the Bible], **and I'm thankful for everyone in our class today. Let's thank God together for all our friends in this class.**

Lead children in singing "I'm So Glad We're Together" (track 4) with the *CD* to the tune of "Give Me Oil in My Lamp."



I'm so glad we're together.  
Keep us prayin', prayin', prayin'.  
I'm so glad we're all here today.  
I'm so glad we're together.  
Keep us prayin', prayin', prayin'—  
Prayin' for each other every day.

Lead children in folding their hands and bowing their heads as you continue to sing.

Thank you, Lord, for each one.  
Keep me thankful, thankful, thankful.  
Thank you for everyone who's here.  
Thank you, Lord, for each one.  
Keep me thankful, thankful, thankful—  
Thankful for our friends both far and near.

## ■ Hear and Tell the Bible Story

**SUPPLIES:** Bible, CD player



Fold the *Learning Mat: Jesus' Death and Resurrection* so only the triumphal-entry scene and the Last Supper scene are showing. Set the mat aside. Cue the *CD* (track 8) to "Peter and John Remember, Part 1."

Open the Bible to **LUKE 22**, and show it to the children. Say: **Our story comes from the Bible, God's special book. Our Learning Mat shows us pictures of our Bible story. Who can remember what happened in our Bible story last week?**

Let children tell you what they remember about Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Be prepared to fill in additional details if necessary. Say: **You remembered a lot about that Bible story. There's something else we need to remember this week and all the time.** ► *Jesus died for us, and he wants us to remember him.* **Our Bible story today is about a special meal Jesus had with his friends. He knew he would be going back to heaven soon, and he wanted his friends to remember him.**



Hold up the figure of the two disciples. Say: **These are Jesus' friends Peter and John. We're going to listen to their story about the special meal they had with Jesus.**

Play Part 1 (track 8). After the track, stop the *CD*, and help children select a special place in your room to hear the story. Encourage them to choose a different place than your usual story area. Have everyone sit down in the special place, and then set the *Learning Mat* on the floor. Set the *Bible figure* of the two disciples on the road in the Last Supper scene. Play Part 2 (track 9). As Peter and John talk about looking for a room, move the figures along the *Learning Mat* toward the man with the water jug.

After the track ends, stop the *CD*, and let children "recline" around the *Learning Mat* the way Jesus and the disciples reclined around the table. Set the sitting figure of Jesus on the picture of the Upper Room. Play Part 3 (track 10).

After Part 3, stop the *CD*, and ask:

- **What did the disciples do to remember Jesus?** (Ate a special meal with him; talked to him.)

- **What can you do to remember Jesus this week?** (Say a prayer; hear a Bible story; eat a special meal like the disciples did.)

Say: ► *Jesus died for us, and he wants us to remember him.* **We can remember him by listening to Bible stories, by praying, or by eating a special meal the way the disciples did. Let's remember Jesus with a craft project.**



## ■ Do the Bible Story

**SUPPLIES:** "We Remember" (p. 46), sheet of heavy paper, white glue, scissors, tape



Before class, photocopy the "We Remember" handout on heavy paper. You'll need one copy. Cut a 3-foot length of the *rainbow cord* to put back in the Learning Lab for later lessons.

Then cut enough 2-inch segments from the remaining *rainbow cord* so that each child will be able to have two segments.

Say: ► *Jesus died for us, and he wants us to remember him.* **What things do you remember about Jesus?** (That he loves us; that he died on a cross; that he helps people.)

**Many years ago, people would tie a string around one of their fingers to remind them of something. Sometimes it was to remember to take out the trash. Sometimes it was to remember to get bread at the store. Let's make a memory string to remind us of Jesus.**

Give each child one segment of *rainbow cord*. Spread a thick layer of white glue over the outline of the string on the photocopy.

Have the children who have a yellow segment of the *rainbow cord* stand up.



Ask: • **How can yellow remind us of Jesus?** (Jesus gives us yellow sunshine; yellow is a cheerful color, and Jesus makes me feel cheerful.)

Let the children with yellow strings press them onto the glued area of the “We Remember” photocopy.

Have the children who have a green segment of the *rainbow cord* stand.

Ask: • **How can green remind us of Jesus?** (Jesus made the grass; Jesus gives us trees and shade.)

Let the children with green strings press them onto the glued area.

Have the children who have a blue segment of the *rainbow cord* stand.

Ask: • **How can blue remind us of Jesus?** (Jesus is in heaven; Jesus walked on water.)

Let the children with blue strings press them onto the glued area.

Have children who have a purple segment of the *rainbow cord* stand.

Ask: • **How can purple remind us of Jesus?** (Jesus turned water into wine; he made grapes that are purple.)

Let the children with purple strings press them onto the glued area.

Have the children who have a pink segment of the *rainbow cord* stand.

Ask: • **How can pink remind us of Jesus?** (Pink reminds us of love, and Jesus loves us; he made pink flowers.)

Let the children with pink strings press them onto the glued area.

Have the children who have an orange segment of the *rainbow cord* stand.

Ask: • **How can orange remind us of Jesus?** (Jesus gives us fire, which keeps us warm; he gives us oranges to eat.)

Let the children with orange strings press them onto the glued area.

Post the finished picture on a wall or window where the children can easily see it. If your facility permits, leave the picture up for several weeks as a reminder of what they’ve shared.



Give each child a second segment of *rainbow cord* and help children tape these segments onto their name tags as reminders of today’s lesson. As you place the string on each child’s tag, ask the child what he or she remembers about Jesus. After the child answers, say, [Child’s name], **I hope you always remember that Jesus loves you!** Then pray together, thanking Jesus for loving us enough to die for us.

### teacher tips

If children have segments with more than one color on them, let the child decide which is best represented on the string and stand when that color is mentioned.

## Closing

### ■ Easter Egg Memories

**SUPPLIES:** none

Gather the children in a circle on the floor. Bring out Whiskers, and go through the following script. When you finish the script, put Whiskers away and out of sight.



- Whiskers:** Hi, everyone! I'm so excited about Easter. I get to go on an Easter egg hunt at the park this week. I remember the Easter egg hunt I went on last year. It was really fun.
- Teacher:** That's great, Whiskers. We've been learning about something even more special we can remember at Easter. In fact, it's the most important thing about Easter.
- Whiskers:** Really? What is it?
- Teacher:** Why don't you ask your friends to tell you?
- Whiskers:** What's the most important thing to remember at Easter?
- (Lead children in telling Whiskers how different colors can remind us of Jesus.)*
- Teacher:** ► Jesus died for us, and he wants us to remember him. And I know a way you can remember Jesus while you're hunting for Easter eggs.
- Whiskers:** Good, because I want to remember Jesus. How can I do that?
- Teacher:** Think about eggs. Eggs have baby birds inside. When a baby bird is ready to be born, it breaks out of its egg. After Jesus died on the cross, they put him in a grave with a big rock in front of it. Three days later, he came alive and broke out from the grave. We'll learn more about that story in a few weeks.
- Whiskers:** Just like a baby bird comes out of an egg, Jesus came alive out of a grave. I think I'll draw a cross on one of my Easter eggs to help me remember that.
- Teacher:** That's a good idea, Whiskers. Maybe you could bring one of your eggs when you come to visit us next week.
- Whiskers:** OK. I'd better go home and start decorating my eggs now. I'll see you next time. And I'll remember to bring my egg with a cross on it so I can remember Jesus.



Permission to photocopy this script from Group's Hands-On Bible Curriculum® Preschool granted for local church use.  
Copyright © Group Publishing, Inc., 1515 Cascade Avenue, Loveland, CO 80538. group.com

## ■ I'll Remember

*SUPPLIES: Bible, CD player*

**BIBLE VERSE** ▶



Say: **People in Jesus' time ate the special Passover meal to remember how God takes care of his people. We can remember the good things that Jesus has done for us. And our Bible verse tells us the most important thing to remember.** Open your Bible to **1 Thessalonians 4:14a** and say: **It says, ▶“Jesus died and was raised to life again.” ▶Jesus died for us, and he wants us to remember him. Let's learn a song to help us remember Jesus.**

Lead children in singing “I'll Remember” (track 11) with the CD to the tune of “Jesus Loves Me.”



**SING**

Jesus said, “Remember me.”  
Then he died for you and me.  
I know Jesus is God's Son.  
I'll remember what he's done.

Yes, I'll remember;  
Yes, I'll remember:  
Yes, I'll remember  
That Jesus died for me.

Jesus is alive today.  
He rose again on the third day.  
He watches me from heav'n above.  
I'll remember his great love.

Yes, I'll remember;  
Yes, I'll remember:  
Yes, I'll remember  
That Jesus is alive.

Close the class by joining hands in a circle and saying, “We'll remember Jesus!” together. As children leave, stamp their hands with the *hosanna stamp* as an extra reminder to remember Jesus this week.



### **Growing closer to Jesus extends beyond the classroom.**

Photocopy the “Today I Learned...” handout (at the end of this lesson) for this week, and send it home with the children. Encourage parents to use the handout to plan meaningful family activities to reinforce this week's topic.



## For Extra Time

If you have a long class time or want to add additional elements to your lesson, try one of the following activities.



### ■ **Lively Learning: Remember the Bible Story**

Set out the *Learning Mat* and the *Bible figures* used for Lessons 2 and 3. Let the children move the figures along the mat as they review the details of the Bible stories learned so far. Ask them what they remember about each story. Remind them that ► Jesus died for us, and he wants us to remember him.

**teacher tips**

Be sure you keep the hard-boiled eggs refrigerated until class time. Tell children to put their eggs in their refrigerators when they get home if they are planning to eat them.

### ■ **Make to Take: Egg Reminders**

Bring in a hard-boiled egg for each child. Set out white crayons and a bowl of prepared Easter egg dye. Help each child use a white crayon to draw a cross on an egg. Then show each child how to set the egg on a teaspoon and dip it in the bowl of dye several times. Tell children they can take their eggs home to help them remember Jesus this week. Remind them that ► Jesus died for us, and he wants us to remember him.



### ■ **Treat to Eat: Tortilla Bread**

Before class, mix together 2 cups flour, 1 teaspoon salt,  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup cooking oil, and  $\frac{2}{3}$  cup warm water. If you have more than 12 children in your class, you can double this recipe. Knead the dough for about two minutes, and then divide it into 12 balls.

Help children clean their hands at a nearby sink or with baby wipes. Give a ball of dough to each child, and have the child flatten it with a wooden block or rolling pin. Plug in an electric skillet, *away from children*, and toast the flat bread for about a minute on each side. If you have a large skillet, you'll be able to cook two or three pieces at once. Let the bread cool slightly before serving it. Set the skillet away from the children to cool.

As the bread is cooking, review how Jesus broke bread and gave it to his disciples. Remind children that ► Jesus died for us, and he wants us to remember him.

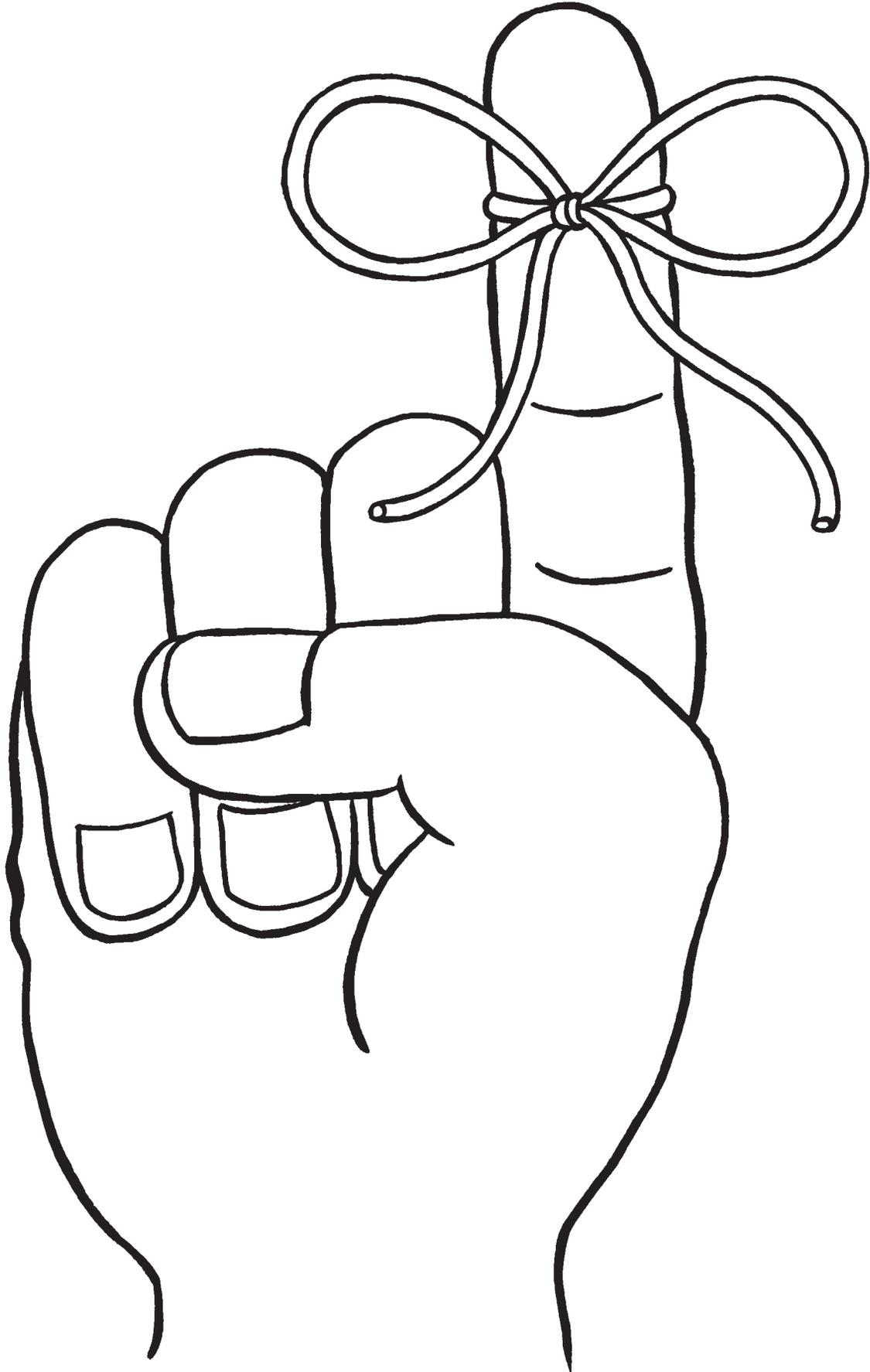


Lay a blanket on the floor, and let children eat their bread while sitting on the blanket. Explain that people in Bible times often sat on the floor to eat.

### ■ **Story Picture: The Last Supper**

Give each child a copy of the "Today I Learned..." handout (at the end of this lesson). Have the children use crayons or markers to color the people in their pictures. Then set out sponge pieces and brown tempera paint, and help children sponge paint the table in their pictures. As children work, review the details of today's Bible story. Remind them that ► Jesus died for us, and he wants us to remember him.

# We Remember



Today I learned...

Jesus died for us,  
and he wants us to  
remember him.

Help me learn this:

"Jesus died and was raised to life again"  
(1 Thessalonians 4:14a).

Ask me:

- How did Jesus ask his friends to remember him?
- What can you do to remember Jesus?
- How can our family remember Jesus this week?

### Family Fun

- Check out a book about Passover at the library, and then have a Passover celebration. Light candles and serve matzos, grape juice, and other Passover foods. As you eat your Passover meal, remember Jesus' death and resurrection.
- Get out old photos and home videos. Remember all the fun times you've had together. Talk about why it's important to remember. Thank God for fun family times.

**Lesson 3**  
Today your child learned that  
**JESUS DIED FOR US, AND HE  
WANTS US TO REMEMBER HIM.**  
Children heard about Jesus' special Last Supper with his disciples. They talked about ways they could remember Jesus.

## The Last Supper (Luke 22:7-20)



