

You'll need:
A cup for everyone with enough juice for everyone to take a drink 4 times.

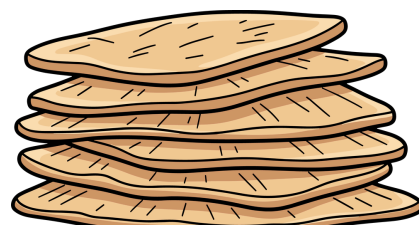
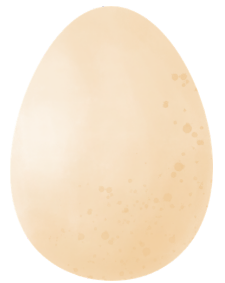
Bitter herbs:
This is traditionally horseradish, but to follow the heart of this element, you could use:
radish, cilantro dipped in vinegar.
Over-steeped black tea, or anything with a bitter taste.

Honey

Other traditional foods to enjoy in a feast afterward:
Hard boiled (or deviled) eggs represent the cycle of life.

Matza bread (unleavened bread) according to God's instruction in Exodus 12:8

Fruit





Passover celebrates God's mighty work to free the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. The first Passover happened the night God's angel swept through Egypt, killing the first born of every household- except those with the blood of a lamb on their door post. This special meal has been celebrated by God's people ever since, and Jesus himself would've celebrated the Passover. In fact, the night he was betrayed by Judas, Jesus and his disciples were celebrating the Passover meal together. John the Baptist, when he saw Jesus said, "Look! The Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world!" (John 1:29). The fact that Jesus is called the Lamb of God is significant in many ways, and during this time, let's consider how Jesus is our perfect Passover Lamb.

The 4 cups we'll drink from together align with 4 "I will" phrases that God speaks in Exodus 6:6-7. Let's read that now:

"Therefore, say to the Israelites: 'I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God.'"

The First Cup – The Cup of Sanctification "I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians" God promised to set His people apart and bring them out from under their burdens. How much more has he done this for us? He has brought us out of our old self and freed us from our burdens.

Lord, we are your people, and you are our God. Sanctify us by your truth. Your word is truth.

Let's drink together

The Second Cup: – The Cup of Judgment: "I will free you from being slaves to them". God poured out his judgement on Egypt with ten plagues, yet even in freedom, his people were still infected with sin. The time would come that judgement of and rescue from sin would need to be carried out.

We eat **Bitter Herbs**, symbolizing the bitterness of the forced labor of the Israelites and the oppressiveness of slavery. Jesus said in John 8:34 that everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. Taste and see the bitterness of your sin.

Lord, our sin is an oppressive weight upon our hearts. You alone are worthy to carry out the judgement we deserve. We look to you knowing that you are good

Let's drink together





Read the Dayenu (die-ay-noo)

The Dayenu recounts the numerous ways in which God brought His people out from Egypt. Any one of these would've been enough to prove God's kindness, love, and might, yet God did it all perfectly! I will read the Dayenu, and after each phrase, we will say together, "It would've been enough".

If He had brought us out from Egypt, and had not carried out judgments against them:

It would've been enough

If He had carried out judgments against them, and not against their idols:

It would've been enough

If He had destroyed their idols, and had not smitten their first-born:

It would've been enough

If He had smitten their first-born, and had not given us their wealth:

It would've been enough

If He had given us their wealth, and had not split the sea for us:

It would've been enough

If He had split the sea for us, and had not taken us through it on dry land:

It would've been enough

If He had taken us through the sea on dry land, and had not drowned our oppressors in it:

It would've been enough

If He had drowned our oppressors in it, and had not supplied our needs in the desert for forty years:

It would've been enough

If He had supplied our needs in the desert for forty years, and had not fed us the manna:

It would've been enough

If He had fed us the manna, and had not given us the Sabbath:

It would've been enough

If He had given us the Sabbath, and had not brought us before Mount Sinai:

It would've been enough

If He had brought us before Mount Sinai, and had not given us the Law:

It would've been enough

If He had given us the Law, and had not brought us into the land of Israel;

It would've been enough

If He had brought us into the land of Israel, and had not built for us the temple;

It would've been enough

These mighty works were enough to prove God's majesty, and his power, and his right to be worshipped. But they were not enough to restore his people to himself and defeat their greatest enemy. For over 1,000 years, God's people would celebrate the Passover while stuck in their hopeless state of sin.

Now let's prepare for the 3rd cup.





The Third Cup – The Cup of Redemption: “I will redeem you with an outstretched arm”. With an outstretched arm, God sent the angel of death to the Egyptians, and all those with the blood of the passover lamb over their door were passed over and spared. Christ, our passover Lamb told his disciples on the night he was betrayed, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.” By the blood of Christ, judgement of sin has passed over all who believe. Jesus hung on the cross with his arms *outstretched* on the beam and he spoke these words: “it is finished”. It was enough. Finally.

Yes, Lord, your precious blood was finally, and fully enough. We thank you.

Let’s Drink together.

The Fourth Cup – The Cup of Praise: “I will take you as my own people” God did bring the Israelites into the land he had promised them. He took them as his people. And now, all who believe in Christ have been brought in as God’s people and are promised an eternity with him.

1 Peter 2:9-10 says, But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

We praise you, Lord, for bringing us into your fold. You have won our salvation, and you are worthy of our lives.

Let’s drink together

Honey represents the sweetness of life with God in Christ.
Taste and see that the Lord is good.

End by singing a hymn like “Jesus Paid it all,” “Nothing but the Blood,” or “Crown Him with Many Crowns”.





Crown Him with Many Crowns



1 Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king through all eternity.



2 Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save;
his glories now we sing who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.



3 Crown Him the Lord of peace; Whose pow'r a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be pray'r and
praise;



His reign shall know no end, and round His pierced feet
Fair flow'rs of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.



4 Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
those wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified;
All hail, Redeemer, hail! for thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.

