10

Getting Ready

Key References: Matthew 26:17-19; Luke 22:10-12; *The Desire of Ages,* chap. 71, p. 642; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 9, pp. 55-60; Our Beliefs, nos. 21, 17, 14















powertext

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms" (1 Peter 4:10).

Sabbath

DO Do this week's activity on page 75.

powerpoint

We serve God best when we use the gifts He has given us.

What is your first reaction when asked to help someone else? Are you immediately willing, or do you want to know how much work it will be? Does your response depend on who is asking for help? Imagine Peter and John's responses.

The morning breeze blew across the faces of the tired group as they prepared to travel on to another city. Jesus and His 12 disciples had just spent the day at Bethany in the home of Simon the Leper. He had given a feast in Jesus' honor for his miraculous healing. At this great feast a woman had washed Jesus' feet with her hair. The disciples were still trying to understand what Jesus had said about it.

With all the delicious food and fellowship just over, the group was now ready to move on. Time was running short, and they needed to get into Jerusalem. They needed to get ready for the celebration of the Passover that was coming in a few days.



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Sunday

READ Read Luke 22:10-12 and this week's story, "Getting Ready."

SAY Say the power text, 1 Peter 4:10, five times out loud to yourself.

PRAY Ask Jesus to show you where and when to share His grace with others.

Monday

READ Read Matthew 26:17-19.

TALK If you do not know someone who has been a missionary, ask an adult if there are any in your area.

DO If possible, talk with an adult, such as a missionary, who has made very special preparation to serve others. How do they feel God prepared them to serve?

PRAY Thank God that He will prepare us to work for Him.

Tuesday

READ Read 1 Corinthians 12:1-11.

REFLECT Jesus knew His disciples would be able to carry out the tasks He assigned them. By choosing Peter and John for this important task, Jesus recognized that they had special gifts and abilities. When we discover our spiritual gifts, we can serve the Lord more effectively.

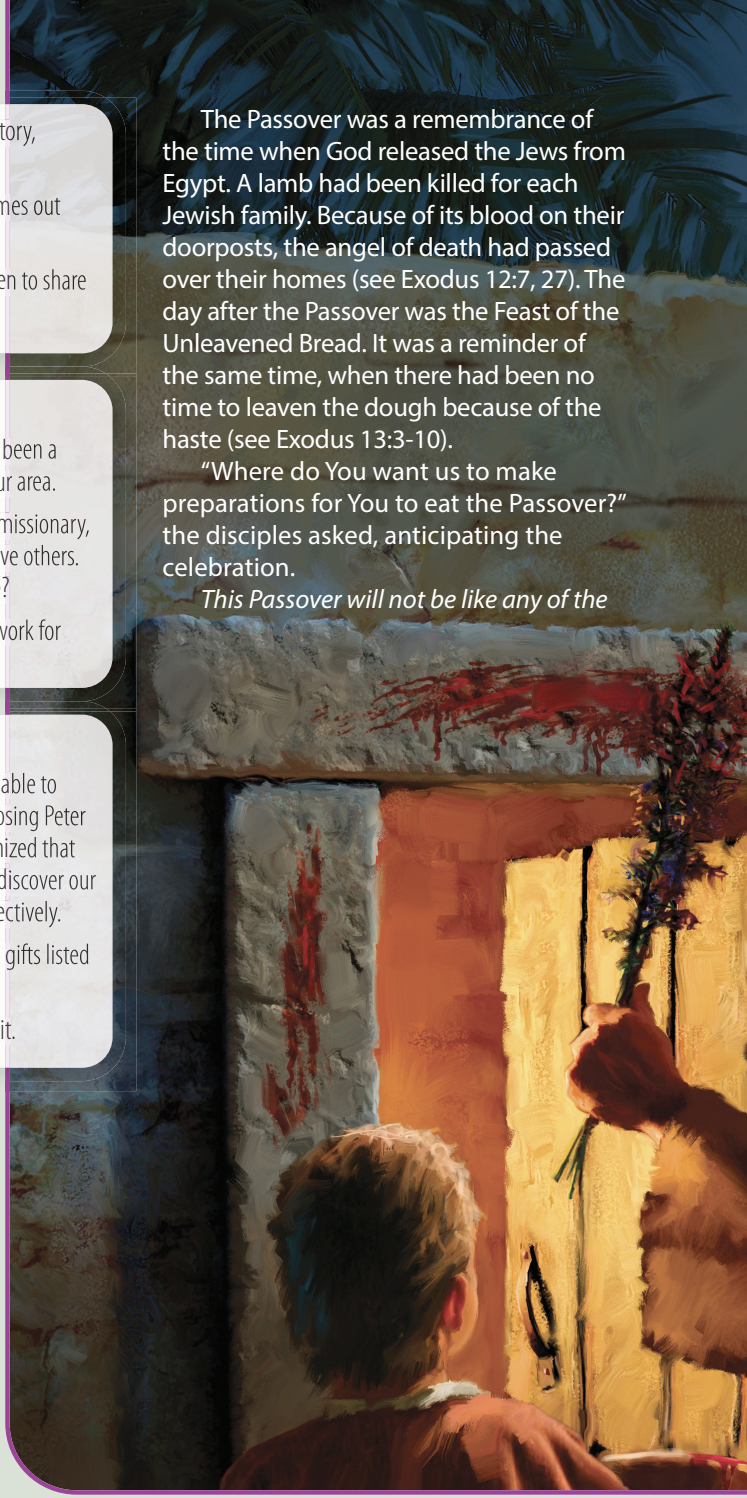
CHART Begin making a chart of the spiritual gifts listed in your reading for today.

PRAY Ask God to teach you through His Spirit.

The Passover was a remembrance of the time when God released the Jews from Egypt. A lamb had been killed for each Jewish family. Because of its blood on their doorposts, the angel of death had passed over their homes (see Exodus 12:7, 27). The day after the Passover was the Feast of the Unleavened Bread. It was a reminder of the same time, when there had been no time to leaven the dough because of the haste (see Exodus 13:3-10).

"Where do You want us to make preparations for You to eat the Passover?" the disciples asked, anticipating the celebration.

This Passover will not be like any of the



others we have celebrated before, Jesus thought with sadness in His heart. The scenes of His trial and death crossed His mind.

Jesus had a plan for this special occasion. He sent Peter and John to make the preparations, saying: "As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters, and say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with My disciples?'

"He will show you a large room upstairs, all furnished. Make preparations there."

Peter and John hurried off to the city as instructed by Jesus. As they stood by the side of the gate, waiting, Peter was the first to break the silence.

"John, let's divide up the tasks we have to do," Peter suggested.

"Sure. I don't see any problem with that. Since you know the best place to get good, unfermented wine, why don't you take care of buying it for this service?" John asked, getting into the plan.

"OK, John. You are great with people. You could probably get someone to bake the unleavened bread. So why don't you take charge of that?" Peter asked.

"That's fine with me."

Just then a man with a pitcher on his right shoulder walked around the corner.

The disciples remembered Jesus' words and hurried their pace, keeping in sight the man with the pitcher.



10

Wednesday

READ Read Romans 12:3-8.

CHART Add to your chart the spiritual gifts you discover in the Bible verses listed above.

DRAW Create a symbol for each of the gifts. Illustrate your chart or draw the symbols in your Bible study journal.

PRAY Ask God to get you ready to use your gifts and talents to serve Him.

Thursday

READ Read Ephesians 4:10-13.

CHART Find new spiritual gifts in today's Bible passage and add them to your chart.

LIST In your Bible study journal, list five Bible characters. Use your spiritual gifts chart to identify the gifts of each character, and write those beside their names.

PRAY Praise God for preparing people with the gifts they need to do what He asks them to do. Sing a praise song.

Friday

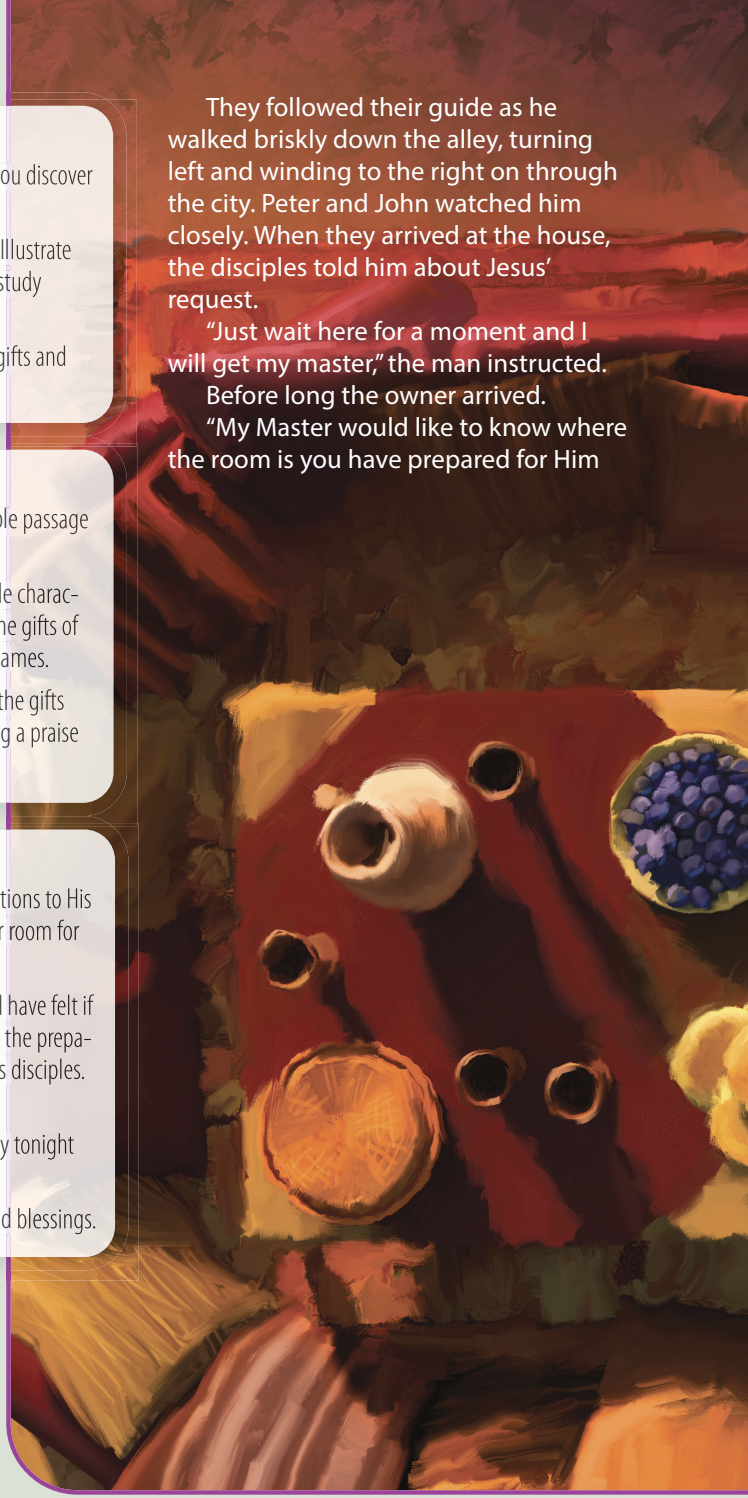
READ Read Mark 14:12-16.

NOTICE Notice that Jesus gave specific directions to His two disciples to follow in obtaining the upper room for the Passover.

WRITE Write in your journal how you would have felt if you were given the important task of making the preparations for the Passover meal for Jesus and His disciples. What would you have done?

SHARE Share your thoughts with your family tonight for worship.

PRAY Thank God together for all His gifts and blessings.



They followed their guide as he walked briskly down the alley, turning left and winding to the right on through the city. Peter and John watched him closely. When they arrived at the house, the disciples told him about Jesus' request.

"Just wait here for a moment and I will get my master," the man instructed.

Before long the owner arrived.

"My Master would like to know where the room is you have prepared for Him

to have His Passover celebration," Peter said respectfully.

"Let me show you the room. It's upstairs," the owner replied.

Peter and John followed the owner into a spacious upper room. It was clean and comfortable, and there was plenty of room for all the disciples to eat this special Passover meal with their Master. Peter and John had a good start on making the preparations Jesus had sent them to make.



PUZZLE 10

SERVICE BY THE NUMBERS

Instructions: Replace each letter in the table with its calculated value from the clues. Each row, column, or diagonal adds to the same sum. Complete both the table and the blanks below.

A =	B =	C =	D =
E =	F =	G =	H =
I =	J =	K =	L =
M =	N =	O =	P =

A = Multiply: One cannot serve _____ masters (Luke 16:13). x Aeneas had been bedridden for _____ years (Acts 9:33).

B = Subtract: "When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into _____ shares" (John 19:23). – "Offer hospitality to _____ another without grumbling" (1 Peter 4:9).

C = "If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them _____ miles" (Matthew 5:41).

D = Add: "There are _____ things the Lord hates, _____ that are detestable to him" (Proverbs 6:16).

E = Divide: "In those days Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about a hundred and _____)" (Acts 1:15). ÷ The paralytic who was let through the roof was carried by _____ friends (Mark 2:3).

F = Multiply: "'You give them something to eat.' They answered, 'We have only _____ loaves of bread and _____ fish'" (Luke 9:13).

G = Add: To show that the gospel was for all people, God sent the same vision of ____ footed beasts and unclean animals in a sheet let down by its _____ corners to Peter _____ times (Acts 10:11-16).

H = Multiply the number with itself three times: Number of disciples who went for the donkey for Jesus: _____ x _____ x ____ = _____ (Matthew 21:1, 2).

I = Subtract: "Suppose a woman has _____ silver coins and loses _____" (Luke 15:8).

J = Divide: Judas was given _____ pieces of silver for betraying Jesus (Matthew 26:15). ÷ "Are not _____ sparrows sold for two pennies?" (Luke 12:6).

K = "Peter . . . asked, 'Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to _____ times?'" (Matthew 18:21).

L = The number of apostles: _____ (Matthew 10:2).

M = Subtract: Of the lepers Jesus cleansed of their disease, _____ did not thank Him (Luke 17:17). – The rich man asked Abraham to send Lazarus to his _____ brothers (Luke 16:28).

N = Add: "But in the church I would rather speak _____ intelligible words to instruct others than _____ thousand words in a tongue" (1 Corinthians 14:19).

O = Add: A total of _____ men were chosen to serve the Grecian widows (Acts 6:2, 3). + John wrote letters to the _____ churches of Asia (Revelation 1:4).

P = Of the lepers Jesus cleansed of their disease, _____ came back and thanked Him (Luke 17:17).