



**Objectives:** To explain that:

- Jesus and his disciples had gathered together for the Passover meal.
- Jesus knew that he would soon be crucified, and shared with the disciples a special way to remember him.
- We can receive forgiveness through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross
- In the Eucharist we remember Jesus, meet with him and receive his life into us.
- When the priest blesses the bread and the wine they become the body and blood of the risen Jesus in a special way.

**"I Wonder" Questions:**

(During the poster discussion, explain any difficult words in the story.)

What do you see in this poster? (hands, bread, cup)

Is there anything you wonder about?

I wonder why we have a picture of bread and a cup. I wonder what is in the cup.

I wonder who is breaking the bread.

Let's find out more in our story.

**Lesson Summary:**

Today we are going to learn about a very special way that we “remember” Jesus so that we can grow to be like him, filled with his love and kindness.

Remember the Passover and Exodus story of long ago? The Israelites had to put the blood of a lamb over their doorposts and they would not die. And long ago, when people sinned, they had to sacrifice an animal and pray for the forgiveness of their sins.

Jesus came from God to be the Passover Lamb, to die for all people’s sins once and for all. We no longer need a blood sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sins. Jesus did that for us. He was the perfect sacrifice.

At a special Passover dinner Jesus blessed the bread and the wine. He told his disciples that the bread would be his body and the wine would be his blood, given for the forgiveness of sins. Then each disciple had a piece of bread and a sip of wine. Jesus told them this was a very special way to remember him always, all through the ages. Now, when we eat the bread and wine, Jesus is with us in a special way. We receive his life into us so that we can grow to be more like him.

**Suggested Questions: What does this story tell us about Jesus?** (He was the perfect sacrifice, he knew the future, he forgives our sins, he wanted to make sure that we would always remember his forgiveness, he wants us to be part of him and grow to be like him)

- What is the connection between the lamb's blood on the doorposts and Jesus' blood when he died on the cross? (Jesus was the perfect Passover Lamb, to die to save all people. The lamb's blood pointed to Jesus' blood and his great work (Exodus))
- Why does Jesus want us to take the special bread and wine? (Eucharist) (to remember his sacrifice, to be strengthened, to receive forgiveness, to receive his life into us so that we grow to be more like him)

**Bible Memory Verse:**

This is my body...This is my blood....Do this in remembrance of me. (Luke 22:19-22 ESV paraphrased)