The Last Supper (with His Disciples)

Teacher Pep Talk: Little Guys will like learning about Jesus' Last Supper with His Disciples. During the Last Supper Jesus gave them a picture of the New Covenant that He established between God and Mankind. We call this picture "The Lord's Supper" (or Communion.)

> Teaching small children about The Lord's Supper is a sweet and meaningful thing. Little children seem to understand that one thing can stand for another. The bread represents Christ's body, broken for us, and the wine represents Christ's blood, shed for us. It is similar to how Christ represented us (or died for us) on the cross.

> During the lesson you may distribute crackers and grape juice to illustrate the bread and wine. (You may wish to seek approval for this from your Pastor prior to the lesson.) If asked, your Pastor might even be willing to come to your class to talk about The Lord's

Supper with the children! (Ask early!!)

You will need: Crackers and grape juice, small paper cups

Copies of the Activity Sheet for all students (crayons, pencils, etc.)

Major Points: Jesus had a Last Supper with His Disciples

He asked them to remember Him

Jesus gave them a picture to help us remember Him

We call the picture, The Lord's Supper

The picture is to help us remember what Jesus did for us

Scripture Ref: Luke 22:15-20 (The Last Supper)

Memory Verse: Luke 22:19 ... *Do this in remembrance of me.*

Jesus had a Last Supper with His Disciples Lesson:

- I have a question to ask... What do we call the meal we have in the morning when we get up? (Breakfast)
- And what do we call the meal we have in the middle of the day? (Lunch or Dinner)
- And what do we call the meal that we have at the end of the day? (Supper or Dinner)
- How many of you had supper (or dinner) last night? Do you remember what you had to eat? (Wait for answers.)
- That's good! You remember a lot!
- Today we are going to talk about another supper we remember. It was a very important supper. We are going to talk about the Last Supper that Jesus had with His Disciples.

Jesus asked the Disciples to remember Him

- Jesus had His Last Supper on earth with His Disciples because He loved them very much.
- Jesus loves us very much too.
- We remember and think about people we love.
- During the Last Supper Jesus had with His Disciples, He asked them to remember Him.
- Actually, He asked them to remember Him in a special way.
- Jesus gave them a sort of picture to remember Him by.

Jesus gave them a picture to help us remember Him

- The picture He gave them wasn't taken with a camera
- It wasn't drawn on a piece of paper or painted on a canvas.
- The picture Jesus gave them was one of bread and wine. (Can you imagine a picture drawn with bread and wine? That's silly! You can't have much of a picture if you drew it with a piece of bread... That just wouldn't work!)

We call the picture... The Lord's Supper

- This special picture is called the Lord's Supper. Jesus is the Lord. And so it is His Supper.
- In the Lord's Supper there is bread and wine (or grape juice!)
- These help "paint" a picture of what Jesus did for us!

The picture is to help us remember what Jesus did for us!

- Jesus said the bread was His body, which was broken for us
- Jesus said the wine was His blood, which was shed for us
- The bread and the wine stand for what Jesus did on the cross for us
- The picture, of the Lord's Supper, helps us to remember what Jesus did for us!
- When we celebrate the Lord's Supper, we are to remember Jesus and what He did for us on the cross!

Let's pray and thank God for sending Jesus and for giving us a picture to help us remember Him!

Prayer: Dear God,

Thank you for sending Jesus.

Thank you for giving us a picture to help us remember Him!

Thank you for loving us.

We love you back!

Amen

Suggested Activities:

Take Pictures

Have the children DRAW a picture of themselves on top of the activity sheet with this lesson. OR...Take pictures of the children and print them off at the top of a full sheet of paper or tape their pictures to the top of a full sheet of paper.

On the bottom part of the paper, under the picture, write: "This is a picture of me on this date. The Lord's Supper is like a picture of what Jesus did for us on the cross." Send the paper home with the children to display in their room (or on the refrigerator.)

Recreate the Last Supper

Create a place in the room to simulate the meeting of Jesus and the Disciples at the Last Supper. Seat the children together like they are gathered around a large low table.

Examples for creating the idea of a large low table:

Place a large sheet or blanket on the floor.

Place a large folded-up table on the floor and have the children sit around it.

Pull several small tables together and seat the children around them.

Pass out crackers and grape juice and let the children eat them sitting around the table.

NOTE: At this young age, I would NOT recommend reviewing the words of Jesus at the Last Supper during this activity. It is probably enough to have the children experience eating together while sitting around the table. Remind them that Jesus ate His Last Supper with the disciples because He loved them very much, and that He loves all of us too! If your class seems very interested in the meaning of the bread and the wine, ask your Pastor to come and give a talk to your class about Communion at a later date.

If the children in your class are older, you may wish to refer to our lesson on The Last Supper written for Elementary Students.

Freeze Tag

After sitting still for a long time, a nice wiggly game may be just what your children need!

<u>Directions:</u> Define a space within which to play. (*Make sure it is free of obstacles.*) Three children are designated to be "it." Have the children who are "it" stand around in the center of the space, and have the other children stand around them. At the signal to begin, the children who are "it" try and touch the other children who are not it. When they are touched they must "freeze" in place (*the more awkward the position, the more fun.*) When almost everyone is "frozen" choose 3 new people to be "it." Play again!

<u>Alternative:</u> If you like, assign one person who can "unfreeze people" just by touching them, unless they get touched and "frozen" themselves. (*Uh oh!*)

This is a picture of me:
On this day:
Now, when you see this picture, you can think of me!
The Lord's Supper is like a picture of what Jesus did for us on the cross. Now, when we see that picture, we can think of Him!