

Tenebrae Meal and Ceremony

- set up table with nine sets of candles that will be extinguished.

- the power point is set up with the welcome page but move to blank screen when you start

Welcome

Leader

The story of how we got here! (Sketch about the man with pot on his head)

Seder meal blessing and lighting the candlesticks

Introduction

Leader

Explain there will be Four Cups drunk during the meal, represent the four expressions of deliverance promised by God Exodus 6:6-7: "I will bring out," "I will deliver," "I will redeem," and "I will take".

The dreaded job

Luke 22:15-18

First cup of wine – I will bring out from slavery

Leader

According to most traditions, no blessing is recited at this point in the Seder.

Each participant dips a sprig of parsley into *salt water (bitter tears)*

Breaking of the middle matzot

Three matzot are stacked on the plate, the middle matzot of the three is broken in half.

The larger piece is hidden, to be used later as the *afikoman*, after the meal.

The smaller piece is returned to its place between the other two matzot.

The Four Questions asked by a child, answered by an adult

Why is this night different from all other nights?

Why is it that on all other nights during the year we eat either leavened bread or matzot, but on this night we eat only matzot?

We eat only matzot because our ancestors could not wait for their breads to rise when they were fleeing slavery in Egypt, and so they were flat when they came out of the oven.

Why is it that on all other nights we eat all kinds of vegetables, but on this night, we eat bitter herbs?

We eat only Maror, a bitter herb, to remind us of the bitterness of slavery that our ancestors endured while in Egypt.

Why is it that on all other nights we do not dip our food even once, but on this night we dip them twice?

The first dip, green vegetables in salt water, symbolizes the replacing of our tears with gratitude, and the second dip, Maror in Charoses, symbolizes the sweetening of our burden of bitterness and suffering.

Why is it that on all other nights we dine either sitting upright or reclining, but on this night we all recline?

We recline at the Seder table because in ancient times, a person who reclined at a meal was a free person, while slaves and servants stood.

Speak about how the people were slaves in Egypt and how God freed the people

Leader

The **Ten Plagues**: with each plague, dip finger in 2nd cup and drop onto plate

1. All the water was changed to blood
2. An infestation of frogs sprang up in Egypt
3. The **Egyptians** were afflicted by **lice**
4. An infestation of flies sprang up in Egypt
5. A plague killed off the Egyptian livestock
6. An epidemic of **boils** afflicted the Egyptians
7. Hail rained from the sky
8. Locusts swarmed over Egypt
9. Egypt was covered in darkness
10. All the first-born sons of the Egyptians were slain by God

Then follows a short prayer, and the recital of the first two psalms of **Hallel** Psalms 113 & 114. A long blessing is recited, and the second cup of wine is drunk (I will deliver – cup of plagues).

Ritual hand washing (this was the point where Jesus washed their feet)
- each person rubs the hand sanitiser into the next person's hands

Blessings over the Matzot

Standard blessing before eating bread, which includes the words "who brings forth"

Sandwich - the maror (horseradish) is placed between two small pieces of matzo and eaten.

The meal right through to coffee and cakes

Afikoman - the middle piece of matzah that had been broken and buried (hidden) is now found and redeemed - it is the last thing eaten on the night

Children search for matzot and the host has to buy it back

Luke 22:19 - Jesus said, "This is my body"

Third Cup of Wine - cup of redemption

Luke 22:20-21 – usually this cup was offered by the host to the honoured guest (Judas?)

The drinking of the Third Cup of Wine.

Songs of praise (Hallel) - Remaining psalms 115–118, are recited at this point followed by **Psalm 136** (the Great Hallel) and other readings.

Matthew 26:30

Poem – What kind of a King

Lighting the tea lights (turn off main lights)

Bethany	– Sketch ‘Mary anoints Jesus and Judas makes his choice’	_____
Extinguish 1 st set of candles		
Gethsemane	– Sketch ‘I think it might be narcolepsy’	_____
Extinguish 2 nd set of candles (after several hours eating and drinking, no wonder they dozed)		
Good Friday	– Sketch ‘Seems like an oxymoron to me’	_____
Jesus before Caiaphas	- Matthew 26:57-68	_____
Extinguish 3 rd set of candles		
Jesus before Pilate and Herod	- Luke 23:1-17	_____
Extinguish 4 th set of candles		
The crowd choose Barabbas	- Matthew 27:15-26	_____
Extinguish 5 th set of candles		
Flogged, mocked and crown of thorns	- Matthew 27:27-31	_____
Extinguish 6 th set of candles		
Crucified	- John 19:17-30	_____
Extinguish 7 th set of candles		
Roman spear	- John 19:31-37	_____
Extinguish 8 th set of candles		
Buried	- John 19:38-42	_____
Extinguish 9 th set of candles (room should be in darkness)		
Stone rolled away	- Luke 24:1-6 (play power point DVD)	
Resurrection	– Sketch ‘We just had to get into Him’	_____
Sing	– Thine be the glory (on power point)	

Possible extra thought

What had they forgotten? – 4th cup (I will take them to the promised land)

Leader

John 14: 1-3 – likened to the Marriage tradition of preparing house for the bride!