

The Last Supper

There is nothing better than having a real good meal with your favorite foods and then finishing it with a scrumptious dessert. Imagine, if you will, that you know that this particular meal will be your last. What would you choose to eat?

The First Epistle, which is a letter sent to an individual or group of people, was sent to the Corinthians and contains the earliest known mention of the Last Supper. This letter was written and sent three years before Mark wrote the first Gospel. The four canonical or God approved, Gospels all state that the Last Supper took place towards the end of the week, after Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem and that Jesus and his apostles shared a meal shortly before Jesus was crucified at the end of that week. They met in an upper room and Jesus broke unleavened bread (bread without yeast to make it rise) sharing it with each apostle. He said this is my body. He then poured wine (fruit of the vine) and said, "This is my blood and as often as you meet, do this in remembrance of me."

When Jesus gave the Lord's Supper, he said about the bread and the wine, "This is my body . . . this is my blood" (Luke 22:19-20), but since he was still physically with them it seems obvious that he was speaking symbolically. The same can be said of Paul's teaching about communion, "is not this bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?" (I Corinthians 10:16). The Bible never refers to communion as a re-sacrifice of Christ. That means we do not repeat the crucifixion and sacrifice of Jesus on the cross every time we partake of the Lord's Supper. In fact, the New Testament says Christ died "once for all" (Heb. 7:27) and refers negatively to "crucifying the Son of God all over again," Therefore, we believe that the bread and the wine are spiritual representations of the body and blood of Christ (or symbols) but do not actually become (in substance) the physical body and blood of Christ.

Question?

1. What did Jesus and the Apostles eat for Last Supper?
2. How many people at the Last Supper? Answer? 13
3. Did the bread and the wine actually become the flesh and blood of Jesus?
4. Why did he offer this symbolic meal to be eaten before he was crucified?

Scripture: Luke 22: 7-23 The Last Supper

⁷Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. ⁸Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover."

⁹"Where do you want us to prepare for it?" they asked.

¹⁰He replied, "As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters, ¹¹and say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' ¹²He will show you a large room upstairs, all furnished. Make preparations there."

¹³They left and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.

¹⁴When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. ¹⁵And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God."

¹⁷After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. ¹⁸For I tell you I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

¹⁹And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

²⁰In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.^[a] ²¹But the hand of him who is going to betray me is with mine on the table. ²²The Son of Man will go as it has been decreed. But woe to that man who betrays him!" ²³They began to question among themselves which of them it might be who would do this.

Next Steps: Ask your mother or father if you can make some unleavened bread. This will take gathering the ingredients.

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/3 cup vegetable oil
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1/3 cup water

Directions

Instructions Checklist

- **Step 1**

Preheat oven to 425 degrees F (220 degrees C). Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

- **Step 2**

Mix flour, oil, and salt together in a bowl; add water and mix using a pastry cutter until dough is soft. Form dough into 6 balls and press into disks onto the prepared baking sheet using your hands.

- **Step 3**

Bake in the preheated oven until bread is cooked, 8 to 10 minutes.