

SEASONS

SERMON-BASED QUESTIONS

JANUARY 27 + 28, 2024

MY STORY

1. If you could bring back one fashion trend, what would it be?
2. What is one skill you think everyone should have?
3. What has been the best party you have ever been to? The worst? Explain.
4. If you could choose only one thing to be remembered by, what would it be and why?

DIGGING DEEPER

We continue the series on “Seasons” and this past weekend we celebrated which turns our focus to celebrations! Some seasons creep up on us—like doubt. Some seasons are inevitable—like waiting. In this week’s study, we explore the season of celebration. Sometimes we think that these seasons are spontaneous and unplanned, however, in this study, we will see that celebration is often planned and purposeful.

5. As a group, read Exodus 12:1-14 and respond to the following questions:
 - a. When were these instructions given to Israel?
 - b. As a group, fill in the table below—you can do this together as one group or divide the two questions below into 2 smaller groups.

<p>Reread the passage and take note of the “what”. Make a list of the things the Israelites were told to do.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>For example: each family was to take a lamb to use in their meal (verse 3).</i>	<p>Reread the passage and take note of the “why”. Make a list of the reasons or rationales that underline each action.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>For example: why should the people eat the meal as commanded (verse 11).</i>

- c. Compare and discuss the findings from the “what” and the “why” from the table above.

- d. Think of a personal scenario when the “**what**” is dominant and the “**why**” is forgotten? How does this affect you and those around you?

6. Read Exodus 12:15-20 together as a group and discuss the following questions (in the same fashion as the question above).

- a. As a group, fill in the table below—you can do this together as one group or divide the two questions below into 2 smaller groups.

Reread the passage and take note of the “ what ”. Make a list of these “what” items.	Reread the passage and take note of the “ why ”. Make a list of the “why”—the reasons or rationales that underline each action.

- b. Compare and discuss the findings from the “what” and the “why” from the table above. What perspective have you gained on this passage on the Feast of Unleavened Bread?

- c. Consider the celebrations you have been or will be a part of (birthday parties, personal or family milestones, professional engagements, etc.)

■ Is it possible for a “celebration” to be more than something mechanical or a tired ritual? Explain.

■ What removes or diminishes the joy from celebrations?

■ What breathes fresh life into celebrations?

■ With these responses in mind, how can we practically participate in and create meaningful celebrations? Explain.

7. In closing, Read Psalm 34 out loud together.

- a. Using the chapter from Psalms, compile a list of the reasons we should “glorify the Lord.”

- b. From this Psalm, what can we learn about living a life of praise and thanksgiving?

8. How are the two passages in Exodus and the chapter in Psalms connected/related? Explain.