



## DISCUSSION GUIDE APRIL 11, 2021

### Dive In

Go around and let everyone answer...

In today's reading, Moses is reminding God's people how to celebrate the Passover. Thousands of years later, we still have rituals and traditions connected to our holidays. Share with the group your favorite birthday memory. (Bonus points if you can communicate the details in five words or less!)

### Dig Deep

Read Scripture: Deuteronomy 16:1-8

**1** Observe the month of Aviv and celebrate the Passover of the LORD your God, because in the month of Aviv he brought you out of Egypt by night. **2** Sacrifice as the Passover to the LORD your God an animal from your flock or herd at the place the LORD will choose as a dwelling for his Name. **3** Do not eat it with bread made with yeast, but for seven days eat unleavened bread, the bread of affliction, because you left Egypt in haste—so that all the days of your life you may remember the time of your departure from Egypt. **4** Let no yeast be found in your possession in all your land for seven days. Do not let any of the meat you sacrifice on the evening of the first day remain until morning. **5** You must not sacrifice the Passover in any town the LORD your God gives you **6** except in the place he will choose as a dwelling for his Name. There you must sacrifice the Passover in the evening, when the sun goes down, on the anniversary of your departure from Egypt. **7** Roast it and eat it at the place the LORD your God will choose. Then in the morning return to your tents. **8** For six days eat unleavened bread and on the seventh day hold an assembly to the LORD your God and do no work.

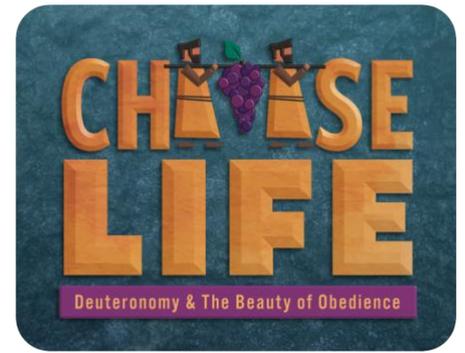
- What was the purpose of the Passover celebration and what was to be remembered about God? (Deut. 16:1-3)
- What is the significance of yeast in this celebration? (Deut. 16:4)
- Where and when was the Passover to be celebrated and why is this significant? (Deut. 16:5-8)

### Do Big

When we read the "Woe to you" passages in Luke 11:37-54, we see how Jesus regarded hypocrisy. In general terms, list the infractions Jesus ticks off for his audience. (Example: *greed*)

In Luke 12, He used the metaphor of yeast to illustrate the pervasive power of hypocrisy as it seeks to influence what is around it, puffing it up almost as much as the self-absorbed, insincere Pharisees who sought to trick Jesus at every turn.

How can you "get the leaven out" in your own life? Ask God to bring to light the areas where your thoughts and actions do not match up with what you know to be right. (Hint: Look back at Jesus' list from Luke 11 for helpful—and possibly *uncomfortable*—suggestions.)



## LEADERS

### Context

Read Deuteronomy 16

### Background:

Yeast often symbolizes evil because though small and seemingly insignificant it rapidly grows and "infects" the whole lump of dough.

In scripture yeast can represent...

- Hypocrisy – Luke 11 & 12.
- Unbelief – Matt. 16:5-12.
- Sins of the old life – 1 Corinthians 5:6-8.
- False doctrine – Galatians 5:7-10

In this lesson and the Biblical text hypocrisy is a sin exposed like no other by our Lord. Some 23 times Jesus addresses the sin of hypocrisy in the synoptic Gospels. It is an evil deception that does not allow us to know and live the truth of Jesus who sets us free from Satan's lies and free to live a life of love.

### Weekly Memory Verse

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God."

Matthew 5:8

