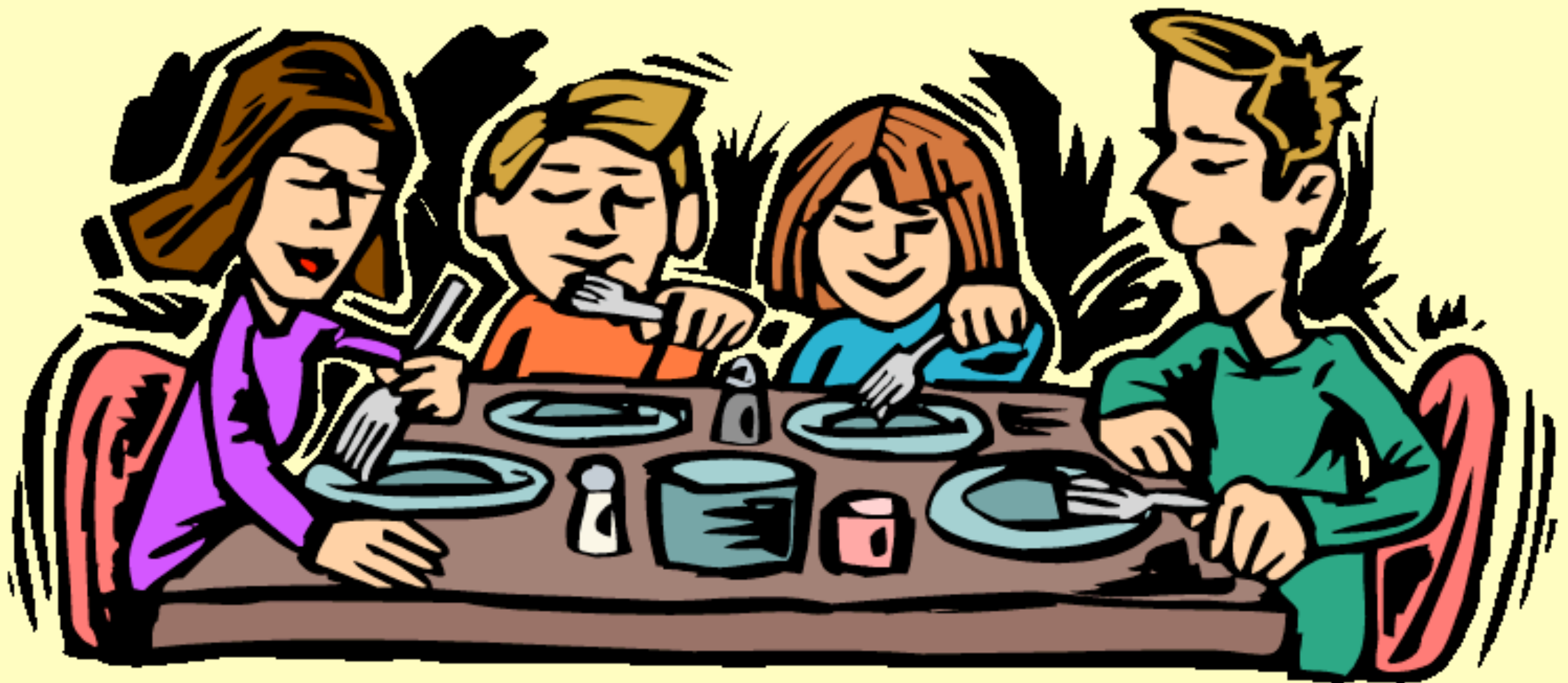


Why is Easter important to Christians?

Learning Objective:

To learn about the significance of the Last Supper.

When do you have special meals with your family and friends?



Think, pair, share your ideas.

BACK

NEXT

Jesus knew he was going to die and he used a special meal with his disciples as a way of making them understand what he was doing.

This story is taken from the Gospel of Mark, chapter 14, verses 17-26.



BACK

NEXT

The Last Supper

When it was evening, Jesus came with the twelve disciples. While they were at the table eating Jesus said, "I tell you that one of you will betray me - one who is eating with me."

The disciples were upset and began to ask him, one after the other, "Surely you don't mean me, do you?"

Jesus answered, "It will be one of you twelve who dips his bread in the dish with me. The Son of Man will die as the Scriptures say he will; but how terrible for the man who betrays the Son of Man! It would have been better for that man if he had never been born."

BACK

NEXT

While they were eating, Jesus took a piece of bread, gave thanks to God, broke it and gave it to his disciples. "Take it," he said. "This is my body."

Then he took a cup, gave thanks to God, and handed it to them; and they all drank from it. Jesus said, "This is my blood which is poured out for many, my blood which seals God's covenant. I tell you, I will never again drink this wine until I drink the new wine in the Kingdom of God."

Then they sang a hymn and went out to the Mount of Olives.



BACK

NEXT

In the Gospel of John, John describes a different event at the Last Supper...

It was now the day before the Passover festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. He had always loved those in the world who were his own and he loved them until the very end.

Jesus and his disciples were at supper. The Devil had already put into the heart of Judas the thought of betraying Jesus. Jesus knew that the Father had given him complete power; he knew that he had come from God and was going to God.

BACK

NEXT

So he rose from the table, took off his outer garment, and tied a towel around his waist. Then he poured some water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry them with the towel. He came to Simon Peter who said to him, "Are you going to wash my feet, Lord?" Jesus answered him, "You do not understand now what I am doing, but you will understand later." Peter declared, "Never at any time will you wash my feet!" "If I do not wash your feet," Jesus answered, "you will no longer be my disciple." Simon Peter answered, "Lord, do not wash only my feet then! Wash my hands and my head too!"

BACK

NEXT

Jesus said, "Anyone who has had a bath is completely clean and does not have to wash himself, except for his feet. All of you are clean - all except one."

After Jesus had washed their feet, he put his outer garment back on and returned to his place at the table. "Do you understand what I have just done to you?" he asked. "You call me Teacher and Lord and it is right that you should do so, because that is what I am. I, your Lord and Teacher, have just washed your feet. You, then, should wash one another's feet. I have set an example for you, so that you will do just what I have done for you. I am telling you the truth: no slave is greater than his master, and no messenger is greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know this truth, how happy will you be to put it into practice!"

BACK

NEXT

What do you think
Jesus was trying
to show his
disciples? What
did he want them
to understand?



BACK

NEXT

Christians today still follow the example of the Last Supper and share bread and wine in remembrance of Jesus' death. This is called the Eucharist.



BACK

NEXT