



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC A New Year's Feast

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THEME #CanIPrayForYou

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MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

In Exodus 12:1-2, God told Moses and Aaron in Egypt that “This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year.” This month refers to the Passover month, the first month of the Biblical year. The Passover was an event so significant and momentous that it warranted a reset of the Israelites’ calendar.

WHAT IS THE PASSOVER LAMB?

With reference to Exodus 12:3-6, God told Moses to tell the community of Israel that on the tenth day of the Passover month, each man is to take a lamb without blemish or defect for his family that is to be slaughtered on the fourteenth day of the month. They are to also share the lamb with their neighbours if their household is too small for a whole lamb.

1) A Feast Worth Sharing

We learnt that the unblemished lamb in Exodus 12 symbolises Jesus, who is the Lamb of God. Slaughtering the lamb is therefore symbolic of how God gave Jesus to us out of His love (John 3:16) and gifted us with eternal life (Romans 6:23). Just like how God said that the Israelites must share the lamb with their neighbours, as Christians who have received Jesus, we too are compelled to pass on the good news.

2) A Feast for the Living

Exodus 12:10-11 tells us that the Passover lamb is to be eaten in haste before the next morning when the Israelites exit Egypt. Likewise, we must receive Jesus, the Lamb of God, as soon as we are able to, before we exit the earthly realm – where we are just passing through. This is because only the living can sing His praise and share the Gospel, and only the living can receive eternal life and gain access to heaven.

3) A Feast Worth Remembering

The Passover has been commemorated for generations, from the time of Moses (Exodus 40:1-2, 34 and Deuteronomy 16:1-3), to the time of the Kings (2 Chronicles 30:25-27, 35:18), to the time of the Exile (Ezra 6:19-22), to the time of Jesus and the Apostles (John 2:13, 23 and Luke 22:7-8) and even till today (1 Corinthians 5:8). God has further instructed that we are to pass down the

tradition of commemorating and celebrating the Passover for the generations to come (Exodus 12:14). Similarly, we are obligated to pass down the good news of Jesus Christ to our future generations.

CONCLUSION

As we feast this Chinese New Year season, let us recall the feast of the Biblical new year as well – a feast of great significance to our lives. The Passover Lamb, Jesus, is a feast worth sharing, a feast for the living, and a feast worthy of remembrance, so let us boldly bless our family and friends with this Good News. Evangelism may not be easy or natural for everyone and we might not always succeed, but we should do it anyway. #CanIPrayForYou could be a good starting point.

QUESTIONS

1. The Passover is a month of great significance and warranted a reset of the Israelites' calendar. How has coming to know Jesus reset and refreshed your life?

2. Every Passover celebration is also an opportunity to celebrate and remember God's deliverance towards His people. What are some faith traditions that have helped you to commemorate God's goodness and faithfulness? How can you intentionally incorporate these into your own family to point them back to God?

3. Have you attempted #CanIPrayForYou with anyone? Share how participating in the movement has been for you and feasible ways you can reach out to others through it.