



# Faith Adventures Youth Resource

Embedded in Faith Adventures: Children Together, this youth resource is intergenerational in nature and designed to foster God-connection in church, home and beyond.

For guidance on the purpose of the resource and how to use it as a launch pad for your engagement with children and families, please use this link: <https://urc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/FACT-how-to-sheet.pdf>

## Matthew 26: 17 -30 – The Last Supper

Theme: Sharing and remembering together as God's people

Contents:

[Introduction](#) ..... 1

churches commemorate this in different ways and may hold differing beliefs about communion. It is important to respect these and not to insist on only one interpretation. Some churches set conditions on who may take communion – e.g. age, baptized, confirmed etc. The United

Reformed Church generally operates an open table, meaning that anyone can take communion who wishes to. We are sharing a meal as children of God.

Be aware of people who may have unpleasant or sad memories who might find a session on remembering difficult. It is important to acknowledge that we can have good memories and bad memories and hold on to the fact that we have both – it is OK to have sad memories too. This story is about remembering sad/bad and good memories from Passover and from the Easter story, which are far from simply happy events. Note how part of the Passover meal includes salt water and bitter herbs for the tears of slavery.

In the allocated passage this week, the section about Judas has been omitted. This was a deliberate decision, not because it is a difficult part of the story, but because it distracts from the aspects of the story that this session centres upon. You can find materials on Judas in our Easter Encounters special and in the Families on Faith Adventures @ Home Easter special too.

## Together

Let's start our time with God and each other well

If used in a mixed-age group, then young people can support younger ones in using the gathering prayer in Faith Adventures: Children Together. If used in a youth group, you could use this opening prayer or encourage young people to open the session with a prayer of their own.

All mighty God,

Be with us as we learn more about you through stories and people in the Bible.

Help us to walk in your way and follow your path.

Be with us as we make decisions that affect our lives, and the lives of those around us.

Amen

In-person and online game

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Recreate the Last S upper

Print out, or project, an image of Da Vinci's Last Supper.

Can the group recreate the picture, using themselves in the tableau? Maybe take a photo!

Jews celebrate the Passover meal every year – it's a tradition.

Lots of churches and groups and even families have traditions -sometimes we forget why we do something, we just do it because we've always done it!

There is a story that, in India, there was a cat that lived in the temple. One day, a priest came to visit but was scared that the cat would interrupt worship or distract people from what he was saying, so he ordered the cat to be tied to a pillar. Every time after that, during worship, the people at the temple would tie the cat to the pillar – even when it wasn't the same priest. This went on for many years. Eventually the cat died – so the worshippers at the temple bought another cat, just so that they could tie it to the pillar during worship. It had become a tradition, but nobody could remember why it had started.

What are some of the traditions that your church or group has? See if you can find out why they are still done. What about family traditions? Can you share some of these together?

### Challenge

Discipleship doesn't stop when you walk out of the church door – it is a part of everyday life. Take a challenge with you and try to make it part of your week.

You may think of your own suggestion of what you as an individual or a group might do in the coming week in response to what you have explored today? If not here are some suggestions:

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- Use one of the “conversation starter” questions or the question below to talk with someone of a different generation or from a different setting and share your questions, thoughts, insights together. What is the most special meal you have shared in ?
  - Perhaps there is a special meal you could share with others, your family or friends perhaps. What foods could you offer and why? Perhaps everyone could bring something to read like a favourite poem, short story or lyrics of a song.
  - Research something suggested by JPIT, [Resources \(jpit.uk\)](http://Resources.jpit.uk) Commitment For Life [cforl.co.uk](http://cforl.co.uk)