

PASSOVER

Outline of "At Home" Service

The Footwashing

The one conducting the service should read aloud from the following scriptures: I Corinthians 11:23-30 and Luke 22:7-15. Next, John 13:1-17 should be read. Then if two or more people are participating, they should wash one another's feet. If one person is observing it alone, he or she should read the verses cited above so as to remember the example set by Jesus Christ; however, the actual footwashing is, of necessity, omitted.

Introduction to the Bread and the Wine

After completing the footwashing, the next portion of the service should serve as an introduction to the bread and wine. The one conducting the service should read aloud Isaiah 52:13-15, 53:1-12, Matthew 8:16-17, I Peter 2:20-25, James 5:13-16 and Hebrews 4:14-16. It should be pointed out that Christ's sacrifice was for our spiritual and physical healing.

The Bread

Next, the one conducting the service should read John 6:32-40, 48-51, 53-58, I Corinthians 10:16-17 and I Corinthians 11:24. The napkin should be removed from the bread and a short prayer of thanks should be offered. The bread is then to be broken and eaten. This symbolizes the broken and beaten body of Jesus Christ and our acceptance of that sacrifice.

The Wine

In preparation for the wine ceremony, the following verses should be read aloud: Matthew 26:27-28, I John 1:7-9, Hebrews 9:11-15, Ephesians 1:7. Then the napkin should be removed from the wine and a short prayer of thanks offered. The wine is symbolic of Jesus' blood, shed for the remission of our sins. The wine should be passed to those participating, each one taking a glass and quietly, reverently drinking it as a renewal of his acceptance of the blood of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins.

Scripture Reading

Next, a general reading of John 13:18 through John 17 is to take place. Since it is rather long, the person conducting the service may choose to only read portions of this section. This is the account of what Christ told the disciples the night before He died.

Concluding Hymn

After the scripture reading, sing a hymn if possible, and dismiss, quietly leaving the room. It is appropriate to remind those participating about the solemn and sacred occasion throughout the evening, and especially as everyone is departing.