

Maundy Thursday

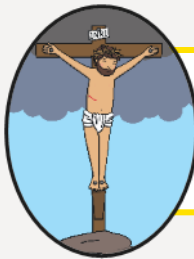
The Story of the Last Supper



Easter



Easter is the oldest and most important festival for Christians.



It celebrates the resurrection of Jesus, a time when Jesus came back to life after dying on the cross on Good Friday.

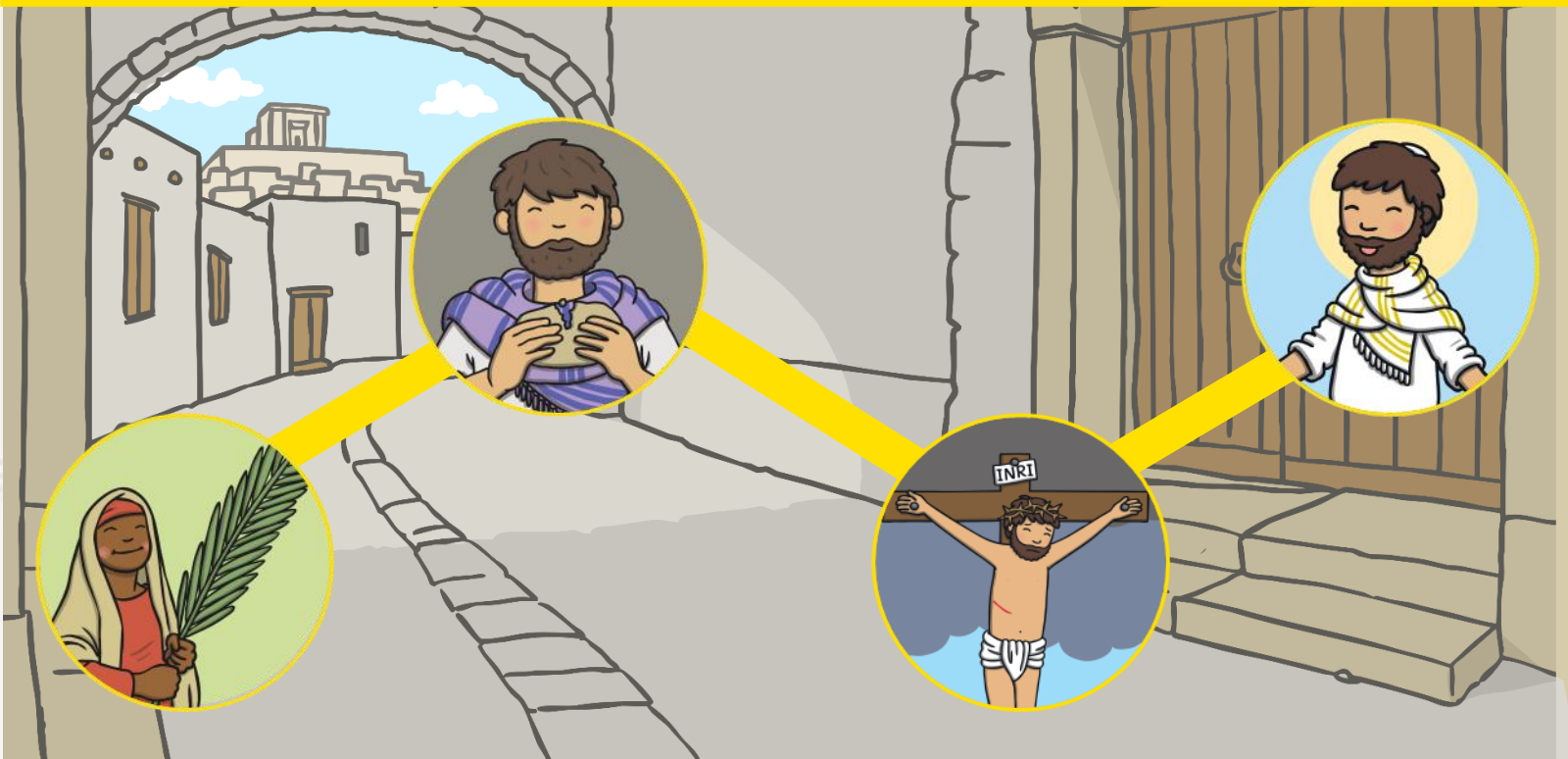


The Easter Story tells us about the events over the week leading up to the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday.

The Easter Story

4. Easter Sunday

Jesus came back to life and amazed his disciples.

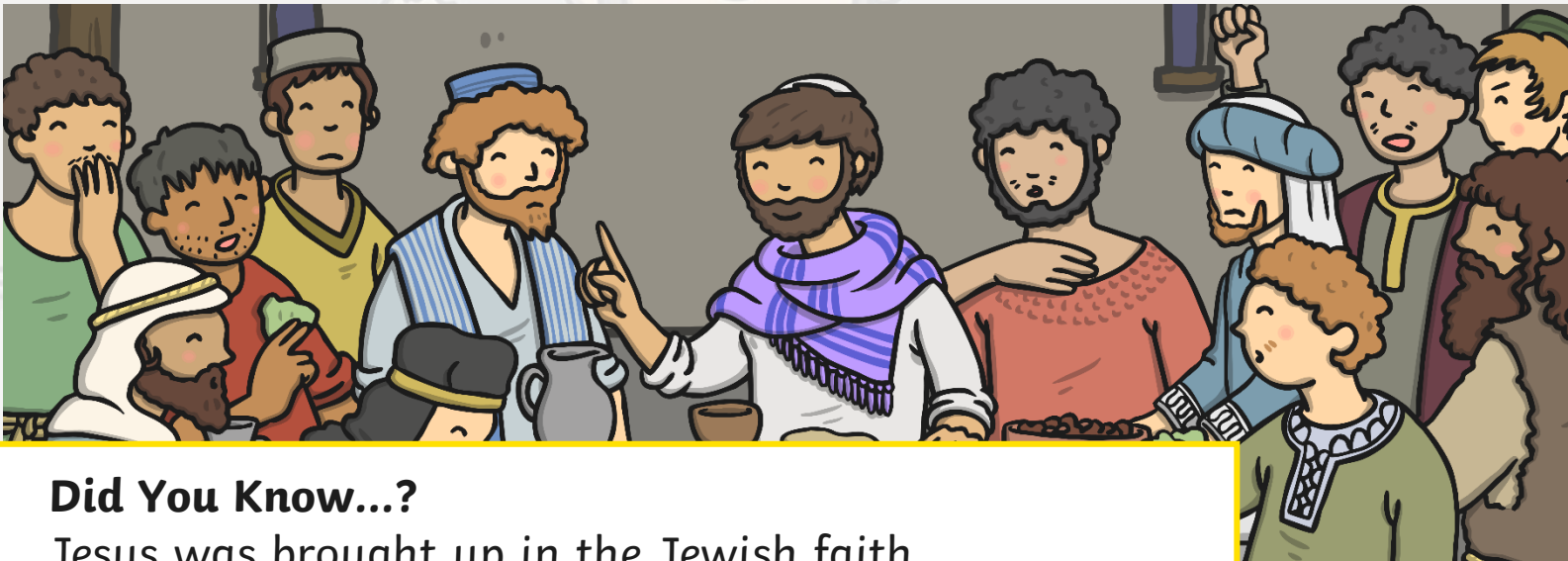


What Is Maundy Thursday?

Maundy Thursday is the Thursday before Easter.

Christians believe that on this day, Jesus shared a Passover Meal with his friends.

This meal is known as the Last Supper.



Did You Know...?

Jesus was brought up in the Jewish faith.

The Last Supper



At the Last Supper, Jesus and his disciples shared a special Passover meal.

Passover is a Jewish festival where special, unleavened bread is eaten.

Jesus shared bread and wine and said to his friends,

“This is my body.”

“This is my blood.”



What Else Happened at the Last Supper?

While the disciples were gathered together, Jesus washed their feet. They wondered why he was doing this, so Jesus explained,

“Love each other as I love you. You must always help one another. No one is more important than anyone else.”



In the Garden of Gethsemane

While everyone was talking and sharing their meal, Jesus was worried. He knew that one of his friends would soon betray him.

Jesus went into the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. It was there that his friend Judas betrayed him. Judas showed the Roman soldiers who Jesus was by giving him a kiss on the cheek.

The soldiers arrested Jesus and he was taken away.



Maundy Thursday Traditions

Christians celebrate the Eucharist (Holy Communion) in church.

This is when they remember Jesus sharing the bread and wine at the Last Supper.

Roman Catholics re-enact the washing of feet during a special Maundy Thursday Church Service. The priest will wash the feet of 12 people to remind everyone to serve and help others.



Why Is the Day Known as 'Maundy Thursday'?

The word **maundy** comes from a Latin word **mandatum** which means command.

When Jesus shared the bread and wine and washed the feet of the disciples, he commanded them to do the same for others.

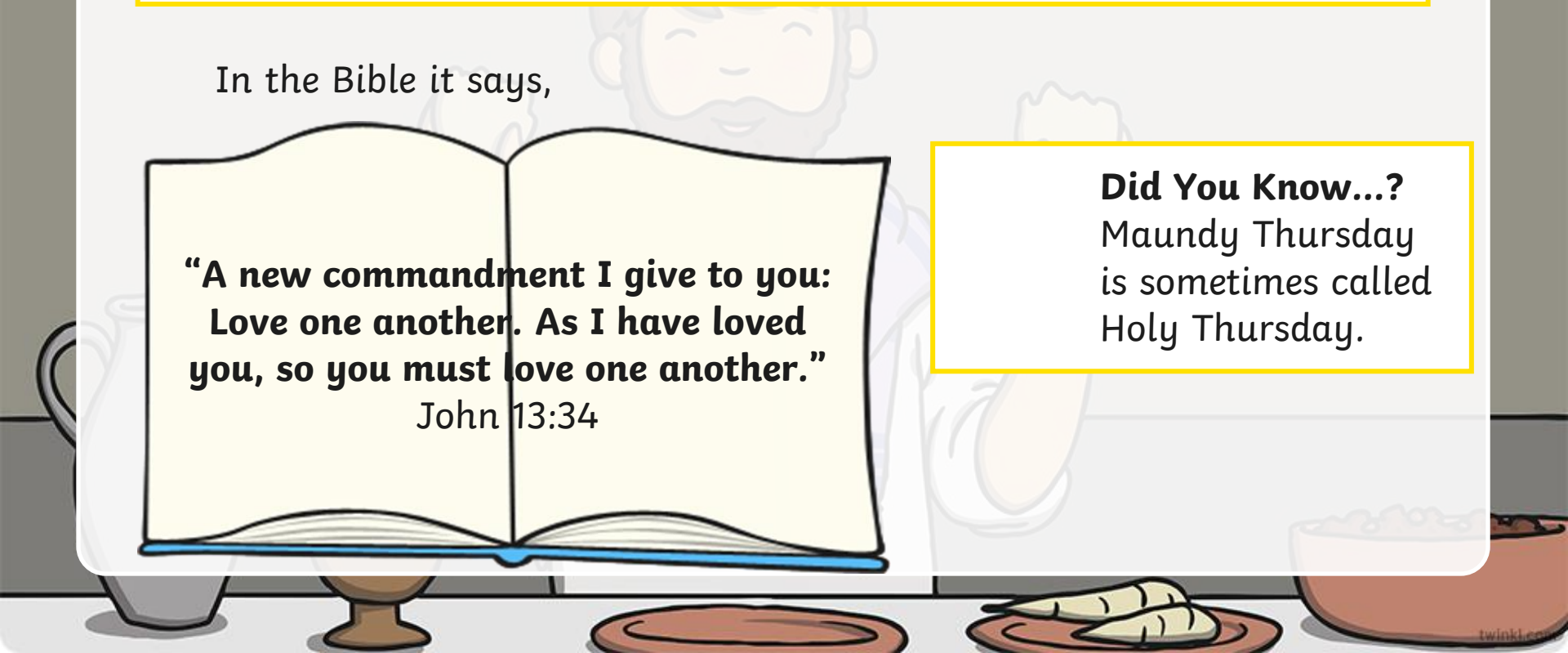
In the Bible it says,

**"A new commandment I give to you:
Love one another. As I have loved
you, so you must love one another."**

John 13:34

Did You Know...?

Maundy Thursday
is sometimes called
Holy Thursday.



Other Maundy Thursday Traditions

Many years ago, the King or Queen would wash the feet of poor people in remembrance of what happened at The Last Supper and as a sign of their humility.

Today, the Queen gives out Maundy Money to people who have done great services to their community. These specially chosen people are given a purse.

The purse contains coins made specially for the occasion. There is one coin for each year of the Queen's reign.



This coin is from James II who was King in 1687.

