



WORDS FROM *Pastor Randy*

Igor Barbanel was raised in an atheist family in Odessa, Ukraine. He realized that his existence was no accident and wanted to learn more about His Creator. He came to faith in Jesus through the “Jews for Jesus” ministry where he now serves as the deputy director for the five branches in Russia and the Ukraine. Igor has led numerous evangelistic campaigns in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

Igor will be with us on Sunday evening March 22, to lead us in the presentation of a condensed “Passover Seder.”

Let me explain a little more about this exciting evening. Beginning at 6 pm, the Ladies of our M & M Ministry will be providing us with a “Taste of Israel.” This will feature some neat Hebrew appetizers and desserts from some really old Jewish recipes. This food tasting event should be a very interesting experience for all of us!

Then at 6:30 everyone will be seated at the tables in our Fellowship Hall. Each place will be set with the essential food items for celebrating the Jewish Seder. What do brown hardboiled eggs, sprigs of parsley, ground horseradish, onions, salt water, and matzoh have to do anything?

Some are asking: What in the world is a “Seder”?

The Passover Seder was the meal that Jesus ate with his disciples on the evening before His crucifixion. Passover is one of the most significant Jewish holidays because it recalls the Israelites' redemption from slavery in Egypt. The symbolic elements of the feast look back to remember what the Lord did for His people in the past, and they foreshadow a greater redemption through Jesus, our Passover Lamb.

Jewish people around the world have celebrated Passover for thousands of years; however, most do not understand the ultimate significance of the festival.

The Seder Meal retells the story of the first Passover. It is the Jewish family dinner which features 6 symbolic food groups which tell the story of redemption.

The KARPAS (greens) is eaten after being dipped in salt water. The greens represent life; the salt water represents tears, and the dipping reminds us that life is immersed in tears. MAROR (ground horseradish) are the bitter herbs God commanded to be eaten with the Passover lamb ([Ex. 12:8](#)). HAGGIGAH (roasted egg) is the Hebrew word for “festival offering,” and it represents the daily Temple sacrifice. The egg is sliced and dipped into salt water to show that how Jews mourn over the destruction of the second Temple in 70 A.D.

CHAZERETH (onion) is a reminder that the root of life is bitter. Z'ROAH (shank bone of a lamb) is the symbol of the lamb slain on that first Passover. CHAROSETH (mixture of apples, cinnamon, and nuts) is the reminder of the mortar used in Egypt (brownish color). Its sweetness is a reminder that servitude was the prelude to the sweetness of redemption.

This all sounds informative and inspirational! What a great opportunity to learn, especially for our children and young people. And it's just in time for the Easter season.

You won't want to miss this special night . Make your plans on attending & be sure invite a friend to join you as well as we celebrate Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

