Exodus 12:1-13 Now the LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, <sup>2</sup>"This month is the beginning of months for you; it shall be the first month of your year. <sup>3</sup>Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man must select a lamb for his family, one per household. 4If the household is too small for a whole lamb, they are to share with the nearest neighbor based on the number of people, and apportion the lamb accordingly. <sup>5</sup>Your lamb must be an unblemished year-old male, and you may take it from the sheep or the goats. <sup>6</sup>You must keep it until the fourteenth day of the month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel will slaughter the animals at twilight. <sup>7</sup>They are to take some of the blood and put it on the two side posts and tops of the doorframes of the houses in which they eat the lambs. 8They are to eat the meat that night, roasted over the fire, along with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat any of the meat raw or cooked in boiling water, but only roasted over the fire-its head and legs and inner parts. <sup>10</sup>Do not leave any of it until morning; before the morning you must burn up any part that is left over. 11This is how you are to eat it: You must be fully dressed for travel, with your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. You are to eat in haste; it is the LORD's Passover. 12On that night I will pass through the land of Egypt and strike down every firstborn male, both man and beast, and I will execute judgment against all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD. 13The blood on the houses where you are staying will distinguish them; when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No plague will fall on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. (BSB)

Blood, there is something so special about blood. It is essential to life. It carries essentials such as oxygen, nutrition, and disease fighting white blood cells. With the plague that we are in there is a race for something to put into people's bloodstreams that will either prevent or cure the plague. The Bible has a lot to say about blood. It says that life is in our blood. It also says that the shedding of human blood is a serious crime against God and humanity. The first Bible reference to the shedding of blood was when God made garments of the skins of animals to cover our nakedness after the fall. This began a theme in Scripture of the shedding of blood to cover over and eventually forgive us of our sins. Today, I am going to talk about the first Passover and we will end up taking communion together. Feel free to grab something that you can use to participate with us in the taking of communion.

- **I.** Here are the details of this passage.
  - **1.** Each family was to set aside an unblemished year old <u>male lamb</u> and slaughter it at twilight. V. 5-6
  - **2.** They are to take the <u>blood</u> of the lamb and paint it on the sides and the top of the doorframes of the house. V.7
  - 3. They are to *roast* the meat with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. V. 8-10
  - 4. They are to eat it dressed, staff in hand and quickly. V.11
  - **5.** The houses without the blood will be hit by the *plague* that will kill every firstborn: animal and human. V.12
  - **6.** The houses with the blood on them will be <u>spared</u>. V.13 "When I (God) see the blood..."
- II. Here is the application to us as Christians.
  - A. <u>Jesus Christ</u> is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
  - **B.** Only those who have <u>applied</u> His blood to their life will be spared eternal death. Just believing in God is not enough.
  - **C.** We cannot be worshipping *false gods*.
  - **D.** We will have a supernatural <u>peace</u> that others will not have when a plague hits.

Let's take communion together.