



NEIGHBOR  
COLLECTIVE

# SESSION GUIDE

## Week 3 // Fall Festivals // Sukkot (Tabernacles)

What do 3,000-year-old holy days have to do with us today?

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### Things You'll Need Before You Start:

- Bible & Journal
  - Candle & Match/Lighter
  - Bread, Juice/Wine
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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### Announcements:

First virtual hangout (POSTPONED): New date - October 13, 2022 @ 8 PM EST

Make sure to engage in the private FB Group: [Click Here to access.](#)

### Fall Festivals:

September 25-27: Festival of Trumpets/Rosh Hashanah

October 4-5: Yom Kippur/Day of Atonement

October 9-16: Sukkot/ Festival of Tabernacles

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## 2. SH'MA

**Deuteronomy 6:4-5 Hebrew:** *Sh'ma Yisrael Adonai Eloheinu Adonai Echad. Baruch shem k'vod malchuto, l'olam va'ed. V'ahavta et adonai elohecha, b'chol l'avcha, u'vchol nephshecha, u'vchol m'odecha.*

**English:** Hear Israel, The LORD\* (YHWH) our God the LORD (YHWH) is one. Blessed be the name of His glorious Kingdom forever and ever. And love the LORD (YHWH) your God with all your heart, and all your soul, and all your strength.

*\*When LORD is spelled with all caps it means that in Hebrew it is referencing the name of God which is YHWH. We believe from sufficient scholarly research the best way to pronounce the name is Yahweh. Many Jews and some Christians have refrained from using the name at all so as to not misuse the name (Exodus 20:7). If you don't feel comfortable pronouncing the name YHWH, we say Adonai (Lord) to replace it in Hebrew. Many also call YHWH "HaShem" which means "The Name."*

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## 3. GO FOR A WALK

**Take 7 minutes to walk around outside. Put a timer on your phone and come back when the time is up. If you can't walk outside, just walk around your house or apartment. Use this time like an Examen and spend time pondering the questions below as you spend time with God.**

*Take a few moments to get comfortable and become attentive to the Holy Spirit's presence.*

- *Reflect on things you're grateful for today.*
- *Pay attention to some of the emotions you've felt throughout the last 24 hours.*
- *Take one thing from the past day and pray about it. It's okay if you don't know what to pray. Feel free to just spend this time reflecting.*
- *Take a moment to think about the rest of this day or tomorrow. Is there something you need to give to God to handle? Or is there an area when you'll need to be more reliant upon the Holy Spirit for guidance?*

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## 4. LECTIO DIVINA +

Lectio Divina is a monastic practice of meditating and praying through Scripture. This practice also helps us to memorize and internalize Scripture. Here's how it works: You'll take the verses below and read through them four separate times. Each time you'll respond to one of the questions and we encourage you to write down your thoughts in your journal. Once you're done, you can return to the video.

### **Isaiah 51:3-6**

"The LORD will surely comfort Zion  
and will look with compassion on all her ruins;  
he will make her deserts like Eden,  
her wastelands like the garden of the LORD.  
Joy and gladness will be found in her,  
thanksgiving and the sound of singing.

"Listen to me, my people;  
hear me, my nation:  
Instruction will go out from me;  
my justice will become a light to the nations.  
My righteousness draws near speedily,  
my salvation is on the way,  
and my arm will bring justice to the nations.  
The islands will look to me  
and wait in hope for my arm.  
Lift up your eyes to the heavens,  
look at the earth beneath;  
the heavens will vanish like smoke,  
the earth will wear out like a garment  
and its inhabitants die like flies.  
But my salvation will last forever,  
my righteousness will never fail."

- 1. What words speak out to you?**
  - 2. What phrases speak out to you?**
  - 3. Say a 1-2 sentence prayer based on the verses.**
  - 4. Take a moment to reflect and be still.**
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## 5. LORD'S PRAYER

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one.  
For yours is the Kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory forever.  
Amen!”

*\*The Lord's prayer can be found in [Matthew 6:9-13](#) except for the final line. Learn more about the Lord's prayer and why that final line was inserted in [this article here](#).*

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## 6. CANDLE LIGHTING

**Matthew 5:14:** *"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."*

**Candle Blessing:** “Blessed are you, LORD our God, King of the Universe, who sanctified us in his commandments, and commanded us to be a light to the nations, and who gave to us Jesus our Messiah, Light of the World.”

**Let's pray together:** LORD we pray that the lights we now kindle will inspire us to use our lives to heal, and not to harm. To help, and not to hinder. To bless, and not to curse. We ask that You would free us from the selfishness and bitterness that keep us from loving you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. Release us from the pride that keeps us from loving our neighbors as ourselves. As we walk into this world as the light of the world, we ask that you would guide our footsteps, protect us from the enemy, and that we would use your light to share your lovingkindness, with the world! Amen.

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# 7. WORSHIP SONG

## Song: “With Us”

### VERSE 1

Not a king adorned in splendor, robed in glory  
But a baby in a manger born to save  
Not a warrior who fights His way to power  
But a friend who faced the cross to set us free

### CHORUS

You are with us  
You are with us  
In every moment  
You are with us  
You are Jesus  
You are Jesus  
In every moment  
You are with us

### VERSE 2

Wrapped in rags, receive the gift of heaven  
With a word You bring the dead to life again  
You were there from the beginning of creation  
With a promise to be with us in the end

### Bridge

When we don't understand  
We know You're working  
For our good, For our good  
We're trusting in Your plan  
Your purpose always wins  
You are with us, You are with us

### CHORUS

You are with us  
You are with us  
In every moment  
You are with us  
You are Jesus  
You are Jesus  
In every moment  
You are with us

*“With Us”*

*LC Worship*

*Courtesy of Life.Church*

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# 8. COMMUNION

You will need the elements at this point if you're wanting to participate. Please know you do not have to participate if you would rather not. [Click here to learn more about communion.](#)

Why do we take communion every week? Because it's a reminder of what Jesus accomplished for us both on the Cross and in the Resurrection: Forgiveness of sins, reconciliation to our Creator, and new life in the resurrection.

[Click here to view the different views on communion.](#)



***Do you need to ask forgiveness? Are there any areas you believe the Holy Spirit is asking you to remove from your life? Take a few moments to examine and we'll be back shortly.***

## Scriptures To Consider:

[Isaiah 53:4-5](#)

[Acts 2:42-47](#)

[1 Corinthians 5:6-8](#)

[Mark 14:22-26](#)

[Luke 22:14-20](#)

[John 6:52-58](#) (See [article here](#) for more insight)

[1 John 1:8-9](#)



## **Blessing The Bread**

Jesus, our Messiah, was afflicted and He was pierced for our transgressions. On the night that He was betrayed, Jesus took the bread of affliction and broke it and said, "This is my body, which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me." Let's bless the bread:

**ALL:** "Blessed are you, LORD our God, King of the Universe, who brings forth bread from the earth, and who gave to us Jesus our Messiah The Bread of Life."



## **Blessing The Cup**

Then Jesus takes the third cup of the Passover, the cup of Redemption, and He said, "This cup of the New Covenant which is done in my blood, do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

**ALL:** "Blessed are you, LORD our God, King of the Universe, creator of the fruit of the vine, who gave to us Jesus our Messiah, and who gave His life to establish the new covenant."

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## 9. HOMILY

### **Sukkot - The Festival of Tabernacles**

*Sukkah (Sukkot = Plural): A temporary hut or shelter (tabernacle) to remember the journey through the wilderness to the promised land.*

#### **What is a Yinzer?**

Yes, I am defining a Yinzer in my sermon 😊 This is taken from the [Urban Dictionary](#): A provincial, typically residing in the western half of Pennsylvania (USA), who strongly identifies with the nearby city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, often due to a fervent, pseudo-religious loyalty toward one or more professional sports teams headquartered there. "Yinzers" are so called because they speak a regional dialect of American English featuring the use of "yinz" or "yunz" as the second-person plural pronoun. Yinzers are the subject of a number of stereotypes, some of which they are actively proud and consciously reinforce to strengthen their sense of identity, an example being their use of French fries as a condiment.

#### **Leviticus 23:33-36, 39-43**

The LORD said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites: 'On the fifteenth day of the seventh month the LORD's Festival of Tabernacles begins, and it lasts for seven days. The first day is a sacred assembly; do no regular work. For seven days present food offerings to the LORD, and on the eighth day hold a sacred assembly and present a food offering to the LORD. It is the closing special assembly; do no regular work.

So beginning with the fifteenth day of the seventh month, after you have gathered the crops of the land, celebrate the festival to the LORD for seven days; the first day is a day of sabbath rest, and the eighth day also is a day of sabbath rest. On the first day you are to take branches from luxuriant trees—from palms, willows and other leafy trees — and rejoice before the LORD your God for seven days. Celebrate this as a festival to the LORD for seven days each year. This is to be a lasting ordinance for the generations to come; celebrate it in the seventh month. Live in temporary shelters for seven days:

All native-born Israelites are to live in such shelters so your descendants will know that I had the Israelites live in temporary shelters when I brought them out of Egypt. I am the LORD your God."

## Question 1: What did this look like for the ancient Israelites?

### What Was Tabernacles For The Everyday Israelite?

1. It was a week-long festival with Sabbaths on the first and last day (Lev. 23:35-36)
2. It was essentially a harvest celebration (Lev. 23:39)
3. It was to be a week of joyful celebration with leafy trees (Lev. 23:40)
4. They were to live in a temporary shelter for 7 days to remember their journey in the wilderness.

### In other words:

1. Live in temporary shelters for 7 days.
2. Celebrate using luxurious branches.
3. Bring celebratory offerings to YHWH.
4. Special Sabbaths on the first and last day.

## Question 2: What does/did this look like for Jesus as the Messiah?

### John 1:14

“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.” -NIV

*“The Word became flesh and tabernacled among us.” The Greek here is “σκηνώω (skay-no’-o) which can mean a temporary tent/structure, usually with relation to God “tenting” or making his residence with Israel.*



### About Jesus & Sukkot

[Here's an article](#) that dives deeper into Jesus' connection with the Festival of Tabernacles.

## Question 3: What does this have to do with us today?

It's a time when we can put out our own tents and invite our neighbors to eat with us. And it's also a festival that causes us to remember that even though we go through the wilderness and times of feeling alone, displaced, and uncertain, God has a plan in motion to bring us through to the promised land - to restoration, renewal, and ultimately to the restored Eden. We can look back at what he's brought us through and anticipate what he will bring us into.



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# 10. BLESSING

## **Blessing (Numbers 6:22-27 + Justin's Addition):**

"May the LORD bless you and keep you. May the LORD turn His face toward you and shine upon you and give you grace and peace as you go throughout your week. And may you always remember, no matter how dark it gets, Jesus will always be there when you need him. No matter what. Jesus will always dwell by your side."

# BE BLESSED THIS WEEK!

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## **Want To Get Involved?**

Thank you so much for being a part this week! If you'd like to help us out, here's what was need:

1. We're in need of people who love worshipping and can record worship music. Or have their own music already recorded that they would be willing to let us use in these sessions.
2. We'd love for you to lead some of the sections (For example, you would film yourself using your phone blessing and lighting the candle, or saying the Lord's prayer. And we're open to other spiritual practices that help you grow with Jesus).
3. If you know how to edit videos, use Wordpress sites, and/or love social media and would like to help out, please reach out!

You can email us at [info@neighborcollective.org](mailto:info@neighborcollective.org) or use the form on the [website here](#).

Would you be willing to share your feedback? It's completely anonymous and will help us make these sessions better in the future. It should only take a minute or two and [you can fill it out here](#).