# Overview (Dan)

This is the 19th year we have held a Seder in this house, as well as the 13th year Washington has had a baseball team in its latest incarnation. Both are positive milestones per Ellen.

Each year we note whether one of our family has changed jobs, most years it seems the answer is yes. This year no one has done so, a rare non-occurrence. Contrary to that nominal consistency, tumultuous events have been happening and continue to happen that divide the world, our country, our friends, and even, sometimes, our families. And thus, this year, we look at our willingness to understand or at least tolerate different perspectives. Our Exodus narrative does not provide a consistent message regarding such toleration.

Is it sufficient to have the freedom to believe what we want, or to allow others to believe something different? And if the latter, how different. And how much are we comfortable allowing.

As usual, readings and songs in Hebrew are interwoven during the evening, but many of the readings will be in English. We have gotten into the habit of passing out cards with sayings that tie at least a little bit to the broad Passover themes of freedom and often to this year’s specific theme(s).

Each of you has been assigned a number. At different points in the Sedar, I will call out one of those numbers.

When your number is called you should introduce yourself and provide us either with something that we may not have known about you (a bit harder for those who have been here many years) and/or something they have done over the last year which they think we would find interesting. As an alternative, you can mention something that you learned from your parents or friends (or life) about the lessons we might take from Passover or relating to this year’s theme. You will also have a quote that touches on this year’s theme to read from.

You will then be asked to either:

* Read a passage from the Hagaddah, or
* Be given something to read from outside of the Hagaddah.

We continue our approach of the last few years of focusing on the structure of the Seder along with the broad theme already mentioned. Even though we will not be reading aloud very many of the commentaries found on the left-hand pages in the Hagaddah, many are thoughtful. Feel free to flip through the book. There will not be a test at the end.

Our time with our friends and family, both those who have come here many years and those here for the first time is special. We are lucky to share this evening each year.

**P – read the page A Dvar by Rabbi Ellen Weinberg**

Page 16: Candle Lighting **(Various P)**

Page 18: Bless the Children **(Ellen, Dan, various P)**

**Dan – 15 steps – reads:**

Passover is the time when each Jew embarks on a personal journey from slavery to freedom. In order to guide us in our quest, it is said that the Sages carefully wrote a book outlining 15 steps to freedom. It’s called the hagada. Since Passover occurs on the 15th of Nissan, to teach us that just as the moon waxes for 15 days, so too our growth must be in 15 gradual steps.

Page 20 (H) Sing the 15 steps (all)

**STEP 1** – Kadesh, first cup and Kiddush, Page 22

**P-read the page Kadesh, paragraph #1 and the English “Here I am”**

<make sure everyone gets wine before we continue>

Page 22: Here I am ... (H)

Page 24: Blessings (top, bottom) (H)

Page 26: prayer in middle – shechiyanu (H)

**STEP 2** – Urchatz, First handwashing (without a blessing), Page 28

**P-read the page Why Wash Hands Before Karpas**

Page 28: Urchatz, 2 volunteers, one with pitcher and one with towel (just Dan washes)

**STEP 3** – Karpas, First dipping: vegetable and salt water, Page 30

Page 30: Karpas – blessings (H)

**(Dan)** Please help yourself to veggies.

**STEP 4** – Yachatz, Breaking the middle matza, Page 32

Page 32: Yachatz, break the middle matzoh, bigger portion will be used for the afikoman, the smaller one will be eaten with the top matzoh when we do the special blessing over matza at the beginning of the meal

**STEP 5** – Maggid, Storytelling, Page 34

**Dan:** During Temple times, they ate at this point, and then told the story. Rabbis put the spiritual act of telling before the physical act of eating.

**P- back to the structure, read Rav & Shumel, basis of the story, two groups of four questions**

Page 34: Maggid

<**Dan** – page 34, read words at the top, item 1>

Page 36: Ha Lachma Anya (H)

**P-read on page 36 Ha Lachma Anya** (“This is the bread of …”)

Page 40: Ma Nishtana, **P-youngest P**

Page 44: Shmuel's Story - in Hebrew, sing (this talks about the what, shame to praise -> slavery to freedom)

**P-read in Hagadah page 44, Shmuel’s Story**

**P-read in Hagadah page 44, What If**

Page 56: The Four Children / Baruch Hamakom (H)

**P-read in Hagadah page 56, Blessed be God**

**Dan:** Pages 58-59: <assign parts for Narrator, Wise Child, 1st parent, wicked child, 2nd parent, simple child, 3rd parent, child who does know how to act, 4th parent>

Page 72: Rav’s Pesach Story (shame -> praise, idols to God)

**P-read in the Hagadah page 72, In the Beginning + Joshua said (paragraph)**

**P-read in the Hagadah page 72, In reply**

**P-read in the Hagadah page 73, Abraham the Iconoclast**

Page 76: Standing Up For Us (**H-**sing)

**P-read in Hagadah page 76, Standing Up For Us**

**P-read in Hagadah page 78, The Torah**

Page 97: Pharaoh's Frogs (sing)

Page 98: The Ten Plagues (do blessing) (H)

Page 99: Let my People Go (sing)

Page 104: Dayeinu (sing) (H)

<read at the top of page 110 – Why These Three> That is, they are to remind us of the original Seder in Egypt, emphasizing …

“In every generation it is a person’s duty to regard him- or herself as though he or she personally had come out of Egypt, as it is written: “And you should tell your child on that day, saying: ‘Because of this, God did for me when I left Egypt.”

Orange + Table Contents **(Ellen)**

Page 110: Pesach, Matza, and Maror

**P-read in Hagadah page 110, Rabban Gamliel**

**P-read in Hagadah page 110, Why the Pesach Lamb**

Page 112: **P-read in Hagadah page 112, Why This Matza**

**P-read in Hagadah page 112, Why This Maror**

Page 114: **P-read in Hagadah page 114, In Every Generation**

Page 116: The Toast **(Dan)**

Page 118: Hallel (sing) (H)

Page 120: Hallel (sing) (H)

Page 122: The Cup of Redemption **(H)**

**P-read in Hagadah page 122, Here I Am, read the entire page**

Miriam's Cup, **P: read Miriam’s Cup**

**STEP 6** – Rachatza, Second handwashing (with a blessing), washing before eating, Page 124

Page 124: Wash hands (leave)

**Dan-read:** Exodus 12:8 “They shall eat the meat [of the Passover sacrifice] during that night, roasted over fire; with matzot on bitter herbs shall they eat it.” This is the only time one HAS to eat Matza. We are re-enacting the original Exodus. Matza is mentioned first, so we eat that first

**STEP 7** – Motzi – 1st blessing over the Matza, Page 124 (don’t eat)

**STEP 8** – Matza – 2nd blessing over the Matza, Page 124 (eat)

**STEP 9** – Maror, Second dipping: maror in charoset, Page 126

**STEP 10** – Korech, Hillel sandwich, Page 128

**P-read in Hagadah page 128, We have just eaten matza … through the All**

**STEP 11** – Shulchan Orech, Meal, Page 129

**STEP 12** – Tzafun, Afikoman (dessert), Page 130

**STEP 13** – Barech, Birkat hamazon (the blessing after eating), Page 132

Page 137: The Third Cup

Page 138: Cup of Elijah

Page 140: The Prayer for Elijah

**STEP 14**: Hallel, Psalms of praise, Page 144

Page 149: The Fourth Cup

<songs>

**STEP 15**: Nirtza (acceptance), Concluding prayer and folk songs, Page 165

Page 166: Next Year