

Traditional Four Questions

Contributed by [Lowell Perry](#)

Source:

Spouse or Child:

"Why is this night different from all other nights?"

Why on all nights, do we need not dip even once, but on this night we do so twice!

Why on all nights do we eat chametz or matzah, but on this night only matzah.

Why on all nights do we eat any kind of vegetables, but on this night maror!

Why on all nights do we eat sitting upright or reclining, but on this night we all recline!"

Host:

"We eat only matzah because our ancestors could not wait for their breads to rise when they were fleeing slavery in Egypt, and so they were flat when they came out of the oven.

We eat only maror, a bitter herb, to remind us of the bitterness of slavery that our ancestors endured while in Egypt.

The first dip, vegetables in salt water, symbolizes the replacing of our tears with gratitude, and the second dip, maror in charoset, symbolizes the sweetening of our burden of bitterness and suffering.

We recline at the seder table because in ancient times, a person that reclined at a meal was a free person, while slaves and servants stood."