

Members' Handout - 1 Corinthians 11:17-34

Series: The Gospel Made Visible



1. How was the Corinthian Church conducting themselves during the Lord's Supper?
2. What does the Lord's Supper represent? In what ways did the Corinthian church fail to uphold the meaning of the Lord's Supper?
3. What were the consequences of the Corinthians' abuse of the Lord's Supper? How did these consequences reflect God's love for His people?
4. Compare the 2 sacraments: the Lord's Supper and baptism. How are they similar or different? What does that suggest about the meaning of both sacraments?
5. Since the Lord's Supper is a constant reminder of Jesus' blood and body given for the forgiveness of our sins, what are some ways we approach the Lord's Supper that might be contrary to this truth?
6. Consider someone who is wrestling with sin and another person who is struggling
7. As a CG, read John 6:53-58 and "Truth that Makes Us Sing – Q42: What is the Lord's Supper?" Meditate on our deep need for Jesus' sacrifice to sustain and nourish us and rest in the assurance of Jesus' work.

42 What is the Lord's Supper?

ANSWER

Christ commanded all Christians to eat bread and to drink from the cup in thankful remembrance of him and his death. The Lord's Supper celebrates God's presence with us. It also signifies our participation in Christ's death, our communion with God, and our unity with one another. It feeds and nourishes our souls, and anticipates the day when we will eat and drink with Christ in his Father's kingdom.

REFERENCE 1 *Corinthians 11:23-26*

DEVOTION

Do you really know what it means to be "in Christ?"

Sometimes we have great "head knowledge" of what being in Christ means, without having commensurate "heart knowledge" of it. God has a special way to help our hearts better understand being in Christ.

First, as much as you are in Christ, Christ is in you (Col 1:27). If it's hard picturing being in Christ, try seeing it the other way round: Christ being in you.

Second, there's a special way to help us understand that Christ is in us: the Lord's Supper. One of Jesus' greatest claims is that he is the Bread of Life. "If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh" (Jn 6:51).

When we partake of the Lord's Supper, it is a symbol of the Bread of Life entering, filling, and living inside us. Similarly, the wine is symbolic of Jesus' precious blood. Together, they are a reminder of Christ in us. "Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him" (Jn 6:56).

The Lord's Supper is a mystical experience through which God gave us simple, everyday objects to help us understand that we are in Christ and that Christ is in us. We are in the bread and in the blood; the bread and the blood are in us.

"Taste and see that the Lord is good" (Ps 34:8a). With the Lord's Supper, we physically taste bread and wine, and are spiritually filled by his body and blood.

PRAYER

We are thankful to take communion in fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ, dear Lord. May these elements remind us of your presence in our midst, and the day when we will be united in your glory.

SONG

Behold The Lamb
by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend