

**Communion aka the Lord's Supper
1 Corinthians 11:18 – 34**

Big Idea – God's people gather at the Lord's table to remember Jesus.

In Scripture the Lord's table is also called the "Communion" – 1 Cor. 10:16

Communion ought to be a time of:

1. Unity – not division - vs. 18

1 Corinthians 3:3 "You are still not spiritual, because there is jealousy, division and quarreling among you, and this shows that you are not spiritual. You are acting like people of the world.

4 One of you says, "I belong to Paul," and another says, "I belong to Apollos." When you say things like this, you are acting like people of the world.

5 Is Apollos important? No! Is Paul important? No! We are only servants of God who helped you believe. Each one of us did the work God gave us to do.

6 I planted the seed, and Apollos watered it. But God is the One who made it grow.

Corinthian church was divided over personalities. Church today is divided over personalities (TV preachers), politics, & pandemic (masks, vaccines, etc.)!

Listen to what the Bible, the Word of God says:

Ephesians 4:2 Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love.

3 Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace.

Psalms 133:1 "It is good and pleasant when God's people live together in unity, peace and harmony."

2. Selflessness – not selfishness – vs. 20-22

1 Corinthians 10:24 “Do not look out only for yourselves. Look out for the good of others also.”

1 Corinthians 11:21 “For some of you hurry to eat your own meal without sharing with others. As a result, some go hungry while others get drunk.”

Philippians 2:1 “Does your life in Christ give you strength? Does his love comfort you? Do we share together in the spirit? Do you have mercy and kindness?

2 If so, make me very happy by having the same thoughts, sharing the same love, and having one mind and purpose.

3 When you do things, do not let selfishness or pride be your guide.

Instead, be humble and give more honor to others than to yourselves.

4 Do not be interested only in your own life, but be interested in the lives of others.”

3. Memorial to Jesus- vs. 23, 24, 25

1 Corinthians 11:23 “For I pass on to you what I received from the Lord himself. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread

24 and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and said, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me.”

25 In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this to remember me as often as you drink it.”

4. Proclaiming His death on the cross for sins – vs. 26

1 Corinthians 11:26 “Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup you are telling others about the Lord’s death until he comes.”

1 Corinthians 15:3 “I passed on to you what I received, of which this was most important: that Christ died for our sins, as the Scriptures say;

4 that he was buried and was raised to life on the third day as the Scriptures say;”

5. Self-examination – vs. 27, 28

1 Corinthians 11:27 “Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks *this* cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

28 That is why you should examine yourself before eating the bread and drinking the cup.”

Does NOT say one has to be worthy! It says don't do it carelessly, in an unworthy manner.

Psalms 139:23 “Search me O God and know my heart, try me and see my anxious thoughts...”

6. Repentance & confession – vs. 31

1 Corinthians 11:28 “Look into your own hearts before you eat the bread and drink the cup,

29 because all who eat the bread and drink the cup without recognizing the body eat and drink judgment against themselves.

30 That is why many in your group are sick and weak, and many have died.

31 But if we judged ourselves in the right way, God would not judge us.”

1 John 1:9