

# Observance of the Lord's Supper

## Introduction

1. This morning I want us to understand the directions that have been given to us in the observance of the Lord's Supper.
2. We are going to learn that this is a very important act of our worship between us and God.
3. Every Christian needs to know how to observe the Lord's Supper appropriately and correctly in order to be pleasing to God.
4. In our study this morning we will learn that there are four things that take place within our thinking process as we observe the Supper.
5. Let's begin by reading a passage of scripture relating to the partaking of the Lord's Supper:  
**1 Corinthians 11:23-26**
  - A. The church at Corinth was not observing the Lord's Supper correctly.
  - B. They were divided when they were supposed to be united.
  - C. Paul had to write to them so that they would understand the correct way to observe the supper.
  - D. From this instruction we learn that Christians are to observe the supper correctly.

**6. It should be taken upon the First Day of the week.**

Acts 20:7 Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread....

- A. This was an observance of the Lord's Supper.**
  - B. Many in the denominational world around us do not observe the supper on a first day of the week basis – but only occasionally.**
  - C. We, however, believe this is part of why we gather together on the first day of the week.**
- 7. Therefore, we need to give attention to how we should be observing the Lord's Supper appropriately.**
- **In our directions for observing the Lord's Supper we must.....**

**Look Backward**

- 1. The Lord's Supper is a memorial.**
- 2. Jesus instituted this memorial the night of his betrayal and arrest.**

Luke 22:19-20 And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you."

- 3. We are to observe in remembrance of Jesus' sacrifice for us.**
- 4. We remember the death of Jesus.....**

1 Corinthians 11:26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.

**5. Remember.....**

- A. The betrayal of Jesus at the hand of his disciple Judas.**
- B. The prayer that Jesus uttered in the Garden of Gethsemane.**
- C. The arrest of Jesus by the soldiers and the kiss of Judas.**
- D. The mock trial at the hands of the Jews.**
  - 1) The false witnesses.**
  - 2) Peter's denial.**
  - 3) The high priest's accusation of blasphemy.**
  - 4) The trial at the hand of Pilate.**
  - 5) The times he pronounced Jesus innocent.**
  - 6) The threat of the Jews to expose Pilate to Caesar.**
  - 7) The scourging.**
  - 8) The carrying of the cross.**
  - 9) The nails.**
  - 10) The crucifixion.**
  - 11) The death.**
  - 12) The spear.**

**6. We should look back in our mind to remember His death.**

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## Look Inward

### 1. The Lord's Supper is also a self examination.

1 Corinthians 11:28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

### 2. In examining ourselves, we think about the need for Jesus' death on the cross.

#### A. Our sins separated us from God.

Isaiah 59:2 But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear.

#### B. Jesus died for our forgiveness while we were enemies.

Romans 5:10 For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

#### C. Through Him we have forgiveness and hope of eternal life.

Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

### 3. In examining ourselves we think about the church.

Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

Acts 20:28 Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

4. **In examining ourselves we think about our unity.**
  - A. **The Lord's Supper is a communion.**
  - B. **It is a showing of unity both with Jesus and with one another.**

1 Corinthians 10:16-17 The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we, though many, are one bread and one body; for we all partake of that one bread.

### **John 17:17-23**

5. **We should look inward in our observance of the Lord's Supper.**

## **Look Upward**

1. **The Lord's Supper is worship of God and Jesus as God's Son.**
2. **It was love that sent Jesus to the earth.**  
**John 3:16**
3. **It was for love that Jesus gave His life for us.**

John 15:13 Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

4. **Jesus' sacrifice for us, however, would have been meaningless without his sinless life.**

**5. The fact that Jesus was wholly innocent made him the perfect sacrifice.**

2 Corinthians 5:21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

1 John 3:5 And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin.

**6. Because Jesus was both God and man, He is the perfect mediator for us.**

1 Timothy 2:5 For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,

Romans 8:27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

1 John 2:1-2 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

**7. We should look upward when we observe the Lord's Supper.**

## Look Forward

### 1. The Lord's Supper speaks of the future as well.

1 Corinthians 11:26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.

### 2. In the Lord's Supper we're reminded that Jesus is coming again.

Acts 1:10-11 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

John 14:1-3 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

### 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

### 3. We should look forward as we observe the Lord's Supper.

## Conclusion

### 1. In our study and understanding of the observance of the Lord's Supper we must.....

- A. Look backward.
- B. Look inward.
- C. Look upward.
- D. Look forward.

