

The Model Church

Acts 2:42-47

MAIN IDEA: Communion is the command of God to draw near to Him and to celebrate the death and resurrection of The Lord Jesus Christ.

What we need to know about Communion:

1. There is an invitation
2. There is an expectation of:
 - a. Remembrance
 - b. Confession
 - c. Reconciliation
 - d. Thanksgiving
3. The Elements
 - a. The bread
 - b. The cup
4. The Results
 - a. Proclamation
 - b. Unity

How did Jesus invite the apostles to partake in the last supper? How is this invitation extended to us? 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, Luke 22:15

What is it that we are to remember and proclaim when we partake in communion? 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, 1 Corinthians 11:26

While at The Last Supper, how did Jesus model thanksgiving? Why is it necessary for us to be thankful while partaking in communion? 1 Corinthians 11:34, 1 Corinthians 10:16

What do the bread and the cup signify? 1 Corinthians 11:24-26

How is unity a result of communion? 1 Corinthians 10:16-17

PERSONAL RESPONSE

In Luke 22:15 Jesus said to the apostles, “*I have eagerly desired to eat this passover with you.*” This is an extremely intimate and personal invitation. In light of this, how might we prepare our hearts, minds, and souls when we partake in communion?

The apostle Paul urges, “...*examine yourself before eating the bread and taking the cup.*” Not one of us is perfect; it is easy to overlook our sin and pretend that we are right with God. In light of this, how might you humble your heart before partaking in communion? Ask God to search your heart to reveal any sin you might need to confess, or to reveal to you a brother or sister with whom you might need to reconcile differences.

As Jesus was about to partake in the Last Supper, he stopped to give thanks to His Father. He was about to face crucifixion and bear the sins of the world—yet he still gave thanks. As you strive to become more like Christ, how might you thank God before partaking in communion (regardless of your current circumstances)?

Pray:

- Ask God to reveal distractions that may be hindering you from humbling your heart during communion. Then pray for the Spirit to guide and give you the strength to make necessary changes towards confession, repentance, and reconciliation.
- Thank Jesus for empowering us to proclaim his victory over evil.
- Ask The Holy Spirit to help you keep your eyes fixed on Jesus while striving to become more like Him.

REPRODUCE

When we partake in communion we are proclaiming to the world that we serve a living Savior who gave His life for us. Pray and thank God for a united world-wide family of God. Ask Him to reveal to you someone with whom you might share the gospel.

Unity is a direct result of communion. Look around the sanctuary. Is there anyone who you don't know? Is there anyone who appears to be lost or lonely? If so, take some time with that person. We are one Body!

KEY VERSES

From the sermon:

- 1 Corinthians 11: 23-29
- Acts 2:42-47
- Mark 14:17-22
- 2 Samuel 9:7
- Luke 22:15
- 1 Corinthians 10:16-17
- Isaiah 53:4-7
- Hebrews 9:22
- 1 Corinthians 11:26

