

**Sermon: Sharing in the Lord's Supper.**  
**Series: Foundations of Faith.**

**Scripture: 1 Corinthians 11:17-34.**  
**Date: January 26, 2025**

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**OBSERVATION** -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

**INTERPRETATION** -- Answer these questions together:

**1. What does this passage teach us about us?**

a) V. 17-22. The church at Corinth was in a bad place spiritually when Paul wrote these words. They were divided and selfish. What are the things that are in danger of dividing us as a church?

b) Before this week's sermon what was your view of communion/the Lord's Supper? Did anything change for you from hearing the sermon and studying 1 Corinthians 11?

**2. What does this passage teach us about God?**

a) Communion was born out of Passover. What things did Passover teach the people about God? How does communion teach us those same things today? Focus on the ways that God is unchanging.

**3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?**

a) In what ways does the Lord's Supper memorialize the cross of Christ and picture our union with Christ? Consider the significance of the bread and wine/juice, the act of eating, the gathering around a "table," etc.

b) In what ways does the Lord's Supper look forward to our being with Christ in Heaven (a dress rehearsal for Heaven)? Read Revelation 19:6-10 and 21:1-4.

**APPLICATION**

a) Paul tells us to "discern the body" before taking communion (11:29). This phrase has the double meaning of meditating on the bodily death of Christ but also considering how we are relating to the church family. What are some practical ways we can "discern the body" (the church) before taking communion? Are there any broken personal relationships in the church that you need to address before taking communion again?

b) Is there anything you need to do in order to make communion more personal and meaningful for you and less of a simple ritual?

**PRAYER**

- Praise God for his redemption through the blood of Jesus.
- Confess ways that you have failed to "discern the body" before taking communion.
- Thank Jesus for sharing his life with us not just symbolically but spiritually.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you to strive for unity while releasing any anger and bitterness towards others in the church.