



woodside

BIBLE CHURCH

DISCUSSION GUIDE

DISCUSSION GOAL



Discuss how partaking in the Lord's Supper shapes our relationship with Christ and with others.

ICE BREAKER



If you could create the perfect meal, what would it be?

TEXT



Have a member of your group read the passage aloud.

1 Corinthians 11:17-34

¹⁷ But in the following instructions I do not commend you, because when you come together it is not for the better but for the worse. ¹⁸ For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you. And I believe it in part, ¹⁹ for there must be factions among you in order that those who are genuine among you may be recognized. ²⁰ When you come together, it is not the Lord's supper that you eat. ²¹ For in eating, each one goes ahead with his own meal. One goes hungry, another gets drunk. ²² What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I commend you in this? No, I will not.

(turn to 1 Corinthians 11 in an ESV bible to continue reading verses 23-34)

MESSAGE OUTLINE



This is what our pastoral team observed about the passage.

Big Idea: Communion shapes our relationship with Christ and with others.

Key Question: What is God's desire for his people in the Lord's Supper?

The Lord's Supper calls believers to:

1. Unity with Christ. (vv. 23-25)
2. Personal reflection. (vv. 27-32)
3. Public proclamation. (vv. 26, 33-34)

DISCUSSION



- In 1 Corinthians 11, Paul addresses the church about improper practice of the Lord's Supper and reminds them of its true purpose. Talk about your own personal experience with the Lord's Supper. What does it mean to you to participate in it? Has your understanding of it changed over time?
- In vv. 24-25, Christ's command is to partake in the Lord's Supper in remembrance of him. What should we be remembering? How does communion help you understand your union with Christ?
- Paul encourages us to examine ourselves before partaking in the Lord's Supper in v. 28. What does this mean to you? Is this something that you practice before coming to the Lord's table? How might personal reflection before communion impact your approach to communion?
- In v. 26, Paul reminds us that whenever we partake in the Lord's Supper, we are proclaiming the good news of the Gospel publicly. What are the implications of the Lord's Supper being a unified, public proclamation of his Church rather than an individual, personal practice?
- Read John 6:35. Considering Jesus proclamation that he is the bread of life and the promises associated with that, what practical steps can we take to be spiritually renewed in Christ outside of our partaking of the Lord's Supper?

LIFE APPLICATION



In this passage, Paul rebukes the Corinthian church for their selfish practice of the Lord's Supper and encourages them to be humble and unified. How can you prepare yourself to enter into the Lord's Supper with a humble heart? Are there sins of the heart, or divisions amongst you and another believer that would preclude you from communion? Pray over these matters of the heart with your group.

jot your ideas below and send a picture to your group to remind everyone of your action steps this week.

PRAYER REQUESTS


