

Second Ordinance of the Church: Lord's Supper

They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Acts 2:42

In this lesson we will focus on the second ordinance of the church, the Lord's Supper also known as Communion. The Lord's Supper reminds us of the finished work of Christ on the cross. The Lord's Supper was instituted by the Lord Himself. The Lord's Supper is an important event in church worship as believers are reminded in a very physical way of church unity.

Turn to Mark 14:22. What did Jesus say?

Turn to verse 24. What did Jesus say?

The Elements

Turn to Matthew 26:26. What food is mentioned in the verse? _____

Now in verse 29 what drink is mentioned? _____

When we eat and drink the two elements of the Lord's Supper it is essential that we remember the Lord's body was broken, battered, and bruised for sinful mankind. When we drink the fruit of the vine it is important to remember the blood that was shed for the forgiveness of sins (Hebrews 9:22).

Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-34.

Did the Lord give thanks? _____

We should do this in _____ of _____

What does the Lord's Supper show?

In verse 27 what are we to do before partaking?

Prepare for the Lord's Supper

Read 1 Corinthians 11:27-34. It is very important that we come to the communion table in the right frame of mind and spiritual state. If there is any sin in our hearts that we are not willing to confess before the Lord then it is wise to consider if we should partake or abstain.

We must confess our sinfulness before partaking. The Lord's Supper is only for those who are followers of the Lord Jesus Christ and in fellowship of the local church in which they are partaking in.

The Bible does not give express details on how often the church is to partake in the Lord's Supper. However, there are passages that suggest that the local church ought to partake in the Lord's Supper every time they meet. For most churches this will be on a weekly basis (Acts 2:42). Some churches will partake once a month and others once a year. Whenever the church does partake in the Lord's Supper it is very important to be sincere in the remembrance of what Christ suffered and died for, namely the sins of mankind.

Lesson Summary

The Lord's Supper is an act of obedience. Partaking in the Lord's Supper does not make one a Christian nor saves you in any way. The body of believers should commemorate Christ's death, burial, and resurrection and celebrate the new relationship sinners have with God through the Lord Jesus Christ. In John 6:53-63 we read that the Lord's Supper is an act of remembrance. Some false teachers say that the bread and the wine are the actual and literal body and blood of the Lord. The Scripture from John clearly shows that Christ Himself said that this is spiritual not physical.

Remembrance verse

1 Corinthians 11:24

And when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

