

MESSAGE GUIDE

REBOOT: ORDER IN THE CHURCH, Part 2

1 Corinthians 11:17-34



August 5, 2018

CONNECT

- What are some of the ways people try to hold on to the memories of important events? What events from the past do you like to keep fresh in your mind?

STUDY

This week's message focuses on communion, otherwise known as the Lord's Supper. It is one of two ordinances instituted for His church, the other being baptism. The goal of the following questions is to help you grow in your understanding of communion.

- The first time communion was offered is described in three of the four Gospels. Read all three accounts (Matthew 26:17-30, Mark 14:12-26, Luke 22:7-23), and then summarize what took place the evening Jesus first shared communion with His disciples.
- The most comprehensive teaching about communion is offered by Paul in 1 Corinthians 11:17-34. Read through this passage and consider the following questions:
 1. What do verses 20-22 say about the Corinthians' behavior when it came to sharing the Lord's Supper?
 2. According to verses 24 and 25, (where Paul writes about Jesus' teaching about communion) the first communion had Jesus saying, "Do this in remembrance of me" both after the giving of the bread as well as the cup. What is it that Jesus wanted His disciples (and us) to remember during communion? (verse 26 may provide at least part of the answer.)

3. Read verse 27. What does it mean to take the communion elements in an "unworthy" fashion? Why is this such a big deal that Paul would refer to it as "sinning against the body and blood of the Lord"?
4. The Corinthians were definitely falling short when it came to practicing communion. How does verse 30 describe some of their consequences for having flippant attitudes?
5. What is Paul's final instruction on the matter according to verses 33-34? Why was it so important for them to wait for one another?

APPLY

- In the message, Pastor Kurt offered six ways to approach communion: thoughtfully, worthily, preparedly, gratefully, mindfully and expectantly. What do these things look like practically? For you, which of these six have some room for growth?
- Baptism is a once-in-a-lifetime event. Communion is meant to take place repeatedly during a person's life. Why do you think we are called to continual visits to the Lord's table?
- What are some ways a person might make themselves unworthy of taking communion? (Remember, we ALL come to the table spiritually unworthy...that's why we need Jesus!)