

## LIFE IN THE CHURCH

This Is My Body — 1 Corinthians 11:23-32  
September 23, 2018

For as often as you eat the bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. **-1 Cor. 11:26**

### I. THE LORD'S SUPPER: A FOUNDATION

- In the Jewish Passover (Exodus 12; Matt. 26:17-19; 1 Cor. 5:7).
- Jesus originated the Lord's Supper (Matt. 26:26; Mark 14:22; Luke 22:14).
- Thanksgiving [Eucharist] and communion [fellowship] (1 Cor. 10:16; 11:24).

### II. THE LORD'S SUPPER: ITS ELEMENTS

- Bread and wine = body and blood (Matt. 26:26-29; John 6:55; 1 Cor. 11:24-25).
- Transubstantiation, Consubstantiation, Memorial, or Real Presence?

### III. THE LORD'S SUPPER: ITS PURPOSE

- Sacrament: sign and seal (Mark 14:22-25).
- A memorial (vs. 24-25).
- Ongoing covenant renewal (v. 25).
- A proclamation (v. 26).
- Spiritual nourishment (John 6:33-35, 55; 7:38).
- Our union and participation in Christ (1 Cor. 10:16-18).
- Our union with the church (1 Cor. 10:17; 11:29).
- A panoramic view — backward and forward (Luke 22:14-22).

### IV. THE LORD'S SUPPER: SACRED SERIOUSNESS

- A time for self-examination (v. 28).
- Guilt concerning the "body and blood of the Lord" (v.27).
- Deadly discipline as an act of kindness (v. 32).

**KNOW:** The Lord's Supper is an important part of our worship and our communion with Christ and each other. It ties us to Jesus, and to our brothers and sisters in Christ...past, present, and future.

**DO:** Take the Lord's Supper in a worthy manner.

#### Suggested Reading:

*The Lord's Supper: Eternal Word in Broken Bread* by Robert Letham (LifePoint Library #262 LET)

*What Is the Lord's Supper* by R.C. Sproul (LifePoint Library #262 SPR)

#### Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

1. Share some experiences from the group members on how they understood communion as children. Has that understanding changed substantially over the years?
2. Why should we "celebrate" Jesus' brutal death on the cross? What's celebratory about it?
3. How important are our views on the Lord's Supper? Can we continue to fellowship with someone who views the Lord's Supper differently than we do?
4. Does God still discipline Christians today by illness and death? If so, does that mean all illness and death is a result of our personal sin?
5. What does it mean to "examine yourself" (1 Cor. 11:28)?
6. What are your takeaways from Sunday's message? Questions?