



One Step Further Discussion and Devotional Guide

Public Display of Affection Communion

- **What is one relationship you have formed as a result of having a common interest? How is that relationship unique when compared to your other relationships?**

The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, 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." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (NIV)

Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?

1 Corinthians 10:16 (NIV)

- **Prior to this message, what was your understanding of communion? How has your view changed?**
- **What does communion mean to you and how has it impacted your relationship with Christ?**

Key Thought: Jesus didn't give us the Lord's Supper so we would disagree over whether or not the elements change. Jesus gave us communion so that it would change us!

- **What changes do you need to make in your life immediately? How do you need God's help in making those changes?**

Key Thought: The Lord's Supper encourages us to 1.) look within, 2.) look back and 3.) look ahead.

That is why you should examine yourself before eating the bread and drinking from the cup. For if you eat the bread or drink the cup unworthily, not honoring the body of Christ, you are eating and drinking God's judgment upon yourself.

1 Corinthians 11:28-29 (NIV)

- **What do you see when you look within yourself? Do you feel like you are the person that God has intended you to be? Where do you need improvement?**

This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

Luke 22:19b (NIV)

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. .

Romans 5:8 (NIV)

- **What makes Christ's death special to you? How has your life has changed as a result of His death and resurrection?**

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus...

Philippians 2:3-5 (NIV)

- **Why do we so often put our needs first over the needs of others?**
- **Who is someone that you could serve? How will you go about serving them this week?**

Final Thought: Jesus gave us communion to change us and not to divide us. What Jesus did on the cross was His public display of affection towards us. We need to follow Jesus' example of PDA by reaching out to others and serving them.

PDA OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday there were 4 opportunities in the lobby for you show Christ's love to our community. If you haven't chosen one of the opportunities yet, do so now. Contact sarah@nlbc.org for the specifics of each project.

- **JOB-READINESS SEMINAR** - Help people improve their interview skills and job-readiness by purchasing gift cards for hair care, fuel, or business attire.
- **FOOD PANTRY** - Feed under-privileged families by providing groceries for our food pantry.
- **PARTY IN A BOX** - Thank an elementary school teacher and serve the students by giving everything they need to have for a party in their classroom.
- **EDEN CLINIC** – Provide newborn clothes to this faith-based pregnancy resource clinic serving expectant mothers and families.

For Further Study

To use this resource, simply select one or two questions from each category below that you think will help your group discussion. Alternatively, you can use these questions and Scriptures in your own personal devotions during the week.

Open

- How does your church observe the Lord's Supper?

Explore

Read 1 Corinthians 11:17-34

- Why are there differences among believers? (11:19)
- What severe problem did Paul address in this passage? (11:20-22)
- What essential truths about the Lord's Supper and Jesus' redemptive work are presented in this passage? (11:23-26)
- Why should Christians celebrate Communion? (11:24)
- What is accomplished by eating the bread and drinking the wine of the Lord's Supper? (11:26)
- What role does Communion play in the task of evangelism? (11:26)
- What should a person do before partaking of the Lord's Supper? (11:28)
- What did the illness and death suffered by the Corinthians reveal about God's attitude toward Communion? (11:30)
- What additional advice did Paul give to Christians preparing for Communion? (11:33-34)

Reflect

- Why is the Lord's Supper important?
- How should a person prepare for Communion?
- When is the best time for you to examine yourself before Communion?
- What additional wisdom have you gained from these instructions on Communion?
- How have you prepared yourself for Communion in the past?
- How is Communion practiced in your church?
- Why is a spirit of reverence important when partaking of the Lord's Supper?
- Why should we be grateful for the Lord's discipline?

Apply

- How do you want to prepare for the next time you take Communion?
- What advice would you give to a new Christian who wants to participate in Communion?