

## The Most Important Meal of Your Life

March 24, 2024

Main Passage: 1 Corinthians 11:17-29, NIV

### 1. What is the purpose of the meal?

*1 Corinthians 11:17-21, NIV – In the following directives I have no praise for you, for your meetings do more harm than good. In the first place, I hear that when you come together as a church, there are divisions among you... So then, when you come together, it is not the Lord's Supper you eat, for when you are eating, some of you go ahead with your own private suppers. As a result, one person remains hungry and another gets drunk.*

#### Four Practical Purposes of the Lord's Supper

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*Luke 22:17a, NIV – After taking the cup, he gave thanks...*

*1 Corinthians 10:16, NIV – Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ?*

*1 Corinthians 11:23-24a, NLT – For I pass on to you what I received from the Lord himself. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread and gave thanks to God for it.*

*Eucharistean means...*

*1 Thessalonians 5:18, NLT – Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.*

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*1 Corinthians 11:20-21, NIV – So then, when you come together, it is not the Lord's Supper you eat, for when you are eating, some of you go ahead with your own private suppers. As a result, one person remains hungry and another gets drunk.*

*1 Corinthians 10:20b-21, NLT – I don't want you to participate with demons. You cannot drink from the cup of the Lord and from the cup of demons, too. You cannot eat at the Lord's Table and at the table of demons, too.*

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*John 13:1, NLT – Before the Passover celebration, Jesus knew that his hour had come to leave this world and return to his Father. He had loved his disciples during his ministry on earth, and now he loved them to the very end.*

*John 3:16, ESV – [Jesus said,] "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."*

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*Luke 22:19b, NIV – And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "...Do this in remembrance of me."*

## **2. What is the meaning of the meal?**

*1 Corinthians 11:24-25, NIV – For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: 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.*

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*John 6:35,37, NLT – Jesus replied, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty... Those the Father has given me will come to me, and I will never reject them."*

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*Exodus 6:6-7, NIV – I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians.*

*John 1:29b, NIV – Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!*

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*Matthew 26:29, NIV – [Jesus said,] "I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."*

## **3. How do I prepare to receive this meal?**

*1 Corinthians 11:27-28, NIV – So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup.*

*1 John 1:9, ESV – If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

*Acts 3:19, NIV – Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.*