

DISCUSSION IDEAS
TABLE MANNERS

1 Corinthians 11:17-34

June 7th, 2015

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♦ **DISCUSSION POINT ONE: WHAT IS "THE LORD'S SUPPER"?**

Just to be sure we are all on the same page, let's review:

What is the basis for what we call "The Lord's Supper", or Communion?
Read Matthew 26:17-19 and 26-30.

What was the significance of the Passover?

What was the original event: Exodus 12:1-13.

What does the Passover sacrifice of a lamb and the blood symbolize?

How did Jesus apply this to His sacrifice for us?

♦ **DISCUSSION POINT TWO: HOW DID THE FIRST CHURCHES CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER?**

There is a hint in Acts 2:42 and 46. The term "breaking bread" came from a common term meaning to have a meal together. (Compare Luke 24:28-30 & 35.)

If this was a meal together, as it was with the disciples and Jesus, isn't it interesting how we have morphed it into an abbreviated religious ceremony?

An interesting personal study might be to use your concordance to look up references to eating and meals in the old testament.

What were the occasions?

What were the purposes, other than just eating?

Consider how we do the same thing today when we take someone to dinner for business, planning, etc.

If you do not have a concordance, here are a few online options:

<http://www.biblestudytools.com/search/?q=eat&t=nas&s=Bibles>

<http://biblehub.net/searchconcordance.php?q=eat>

<https://www.biblegateway.com/quicksearch/?quicksearch=eat&qv=IV>

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♦ **DISCUSSION POINT THREE: WHAT WAS THE PROBLEM AT CORINTH?**

There were numerous problems in the church in Corinth. One author lists 20 separate problem issues!

What do you see going on in 1 Cor. 11:17-22?

How important is caring about one another?

How could the Corinthians have shown the love of Christ and love for each other?

In verses 23-26, what is given as the true reason for having this meal?

What attitude towards Jesus did their actions demonstrate?

Verses 33-34 talk about "discerning the body". As was noted in Sunday's message, the context shows two different uses of the word "body" in this passage. If you wish to understand better, look at page 3 of the message text. It is available online at <http://gccramona.com/sermons-archive/>.

How important is it that believers live in unity and equality in the body of Christ? Look at 1 Cor. 12:12-27.

♦ **DISCUSSION POINT FOUR: HOW SERIOUSLY DID GOD TAKE THEIR SELF-CENTERED ACTIONS?**

Look at 1 Cor. 11:27. Consider what the words "unworthy manner" mean.

What consequences for their actions are described in verses 29-30?

What practical solution is suggested in verses 33-34?

♦ **REFLECTION:**

How could a group meal be used to truly build relationships and encourage others?

Consider the invitation to take part in a group meal and fellowship at Grace every third Sunday evening at 5PM.

The first one will be on July 19th.

We will ALL help with the setup, meal and cleanup.

We talk about "Communion", but do we really "commune" with each other?

Here we will have The Lord's Fellowship: a time of

CONNECTING / WORSHIPPING / SERVING / CARING.

A sacrifice of Time, Energy, Personal Agendas, and even of our comfort zones!