

THE PLACE OF COMMUNION

1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-34 / SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE



BIG IDEA

The church is the place of communion. At the Lord's Table, God's people remember Christ's once-for-all death, participate in the grace and fellowship he gives, and anticipate his return.

READ TOGETHER

1 Corinthians 11:23-34 | Notice what Jesus commands, what the church proclaims, and how believers are called to come together.

INTO THE SERMON

LOOK BACK AT SUNDAY

- 1 What idea, phrase, or illustration from Sunday's sermon stayed with you most? What made it memorable?
- 2 The sermon described the church as a family, Christ's body, and God's temple. How does the Lord's Table make those realities visible when the church gathers?

INTO THE TEXT

OPEN 1 CORINTHIANS 11

- 1 Read verses 23-26. What did Jesus command his followers to do? What does the church remember and proclaim, and how long are we to continue?
- 2 Read verses 27-32. What warnings does Paul give about receiving the bread and cup? What should honest self-examination lead us to do?

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INTO THE TEXT

REMEMBER, PARTICIPATE, ANTICIPATE

3

Read verses 33-34. Why does Paul tell the church to wait for one another? What does this reveal about communion as a shared act rather than a private one?

4

Read 1 Corinthians 10:16-17 and Ephesians 2:13-22. What do the words participation, one body, access, and built together teach about the church?

APPLICATION

COME TO THE TABLE

1

Pastor Sam described communion as remembering, participating, and anticipating. Which of those three movements do you most need right now, and why?

2

How could the weekly rhythm of communion help close the gap between Sunday worship and the way you live during the rest of the week?

THIS WEEK

CHOOSE ONE

- Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-34 before Sunday and underline every command or promise.
- Before communion, examine your heart, repent honestly, and receive the grace of Christ.
- At the Table, remember Christ's death, proclaim his grace, and anticipate his return.
- Help prepare or serve communion so the gathered church can participate together.

MEMORY VERSE / 1 CORINTHIANS 11:26

"For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."