



## *Why Do This?* 1 Corinthians 11.23-26; Ezekiel 36.25-27

What are you doing when you take communion, when you receive the Lord's Supper? What do you *think* about? What do you believe you're *supposed* to think about? To use Jesus' words, why "do this?" I've had many questions put to me about the Lord's Supper over the years, so since we're thinking about why the church, let's work on why we "do this?"

Pastor Eric

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Describe for your Life Group what the ideal church building looks like that you imagine would free you to truly worship God? Why is it that such a church would be so worshipful to you? What is the kind of worship you imagine engaging in there?

As you read 1 Corinthians 11.23-26, you'll see that Paul describes himself as a kind of conduit, or as a human transfer station, just passing something along. What is it that he's transferring on? What do you think motivates him to pass this along, and why is it so vitally important? Are we at Community Covenant standing in the same line, "having received from the Lord" the same thing Paul is passing along to the Corinthians? *What does that mean to you?*

What are some things you remember that carry a lot of emotion? (Be prepared to share that with your group) Are there tokens or items that you keep of certain special memories? What emotions well up when you take out or look at those tokens? Does coming to communion do anything like that for you? *Do you think that it should?*

Notice verse 24, where Paul quotes Jesus. What is it that Jesus says is "for you?" Sit with that thought for a while; perhaps even take that thought with you through the day for meditation.

Interestingly, some of the best descriptions of the New Covenant (see verse 23) are found in the pages of the Old. For example, read Ezekiel 36.25-27, and underscore each promise that's found there. It's a tough old question, but in what way do you think communion bread and juice (or wine) convey the great truths of this New Covenant?

Do you find Augustine's statement that sacraments are visible words, to be helpful? You may want to note Isaiah 55.10-11 and Hebrews 4.12 to consider the power of God's word. If God's word contains that much power, does that impact the way you think about communion or the way approach it? Nothing in the gospel itself, or in communion, means anything unless we welcome it by faith. How can you exercise faith when you take communion? What might happen when you do?