

**Intro:** We do not take Communion(Lords Supper) nearly as seriously as previous generations of Christians, Esp during the 1600-1900's in Scotland, Wales, England (Other Countries) Presbyterians/Methodist Interview before you took communion! If you were "worthy" Ready and been instructed, trained correctly Show Communion Tokens:

In the US...and most other places...we don't do anything like that. We leave it up to YOU to decide!

Acts 2:42-47

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VS: 42 "They devoted themselves to the breaking of bread!"

Vs 46: "they broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts."

**Devoted:** Lit = *steady persistence; to persist obstinately in; to adhere firmly to*

It was regular...Many believe in the NT it was EVERY time they gathered.

One instance in book of Acts: 20:7

*"On the first day of the week we came together to break bread. Paul spoke to the people and, because he intended to leave the next day, kept on talking until midnight."*

Today I want to talk with you about Communion: What it means...Why We do it...How  
4 Things Communion Does For Us Spiritually

### 1. Communion Both Symbolizes And Creates Spiritual Unity In The Church.

1 Cor 10:14-17

Three important things communion does regarding unity.

- **Shared Actions:** *Symbolize we are One Body; and helps create that Unity Spiritually*  
1 Co 10:16-17 We come together...we all participate at the same time  
When we all are focused together...same things...same time...Unity  
*Creates the Spiritual Unity we are symbolizing*
- **Participate:** Lit = Fellowship: *Koinonia to spiritually connect; to spiritually participate with*
- **Partake:** Lit = *To share in; to participate with; to feed or draw from*
- **Shared Elements:** Common Cup; Common Loaf (Symbolize that we are ONE body!)
- **Shared Experience:** We take the time...the focus...to Put Christ in place of Preeminence In minds hearts, worship  
We actually spiritually welcome Him into the Body...and Into our Hearts!

#### 4 Theories

**Transubstantiation:** When blessed elements BECOME the body and blood of Christ in substance

**Consubstantiation:** When prayed for the "*spiritual presence of Christ comes IN and AROUND the elements*"

**Memorial:** Elements are representative

**Reformed:** Combine 2 and 3! (Is memorial, but 1Co 10 16-17 tells us there is more, as does the "*Judgment*"

### 2. Communion Is An Act of Spiritual Obedience.

1Cor 11:23

Look at what Paul tells us about the act of celebration the Lords Supper.

- **Received from Jesus:** Lit = *to learn from, receive from or to take from*  
Not from tradition; Not from Pastor; Other disciples; Church...Straight from Jesus!  
Do this in Remembrance Lit = Command: Repeated twice: Bread and Cup
- **Passed on to you:** Lit = *to give over to; to entrust with; to commit to; to deliver to; to pass on*

Here is what Paul just said: When I was with Jesus, he TOLD me...DO THIS...

And now...I'm passing on to you...what He told me to do!

**Applic:** Communion is just as much an act of spiritual obedience as is Baptism.

In fact, the best we can understand, Communion may well have been practiced EVERY time the Acts church met!

### 3. Communion Is An Act Of Spiritual Remembrance.

1Cor 11:24-25

This goes back to what we talked about when we discussed the different views of communion.

For you and I the act of celebrating communion serves to "ground" us and remind us of who we are and what we believe.

Every time we celebrate the LS we go back to the foundation of our faith.

**Illus:** DL Moody it well: "*It's not that the bucket of my heart isn't full of the Spirit. The problem is that I LEAK!*"

Every single time we celebrate communion we refill the buck of faith!

- Vs 24: *This is my body:* Communion: Every time we revisit the Cross. My life purchased by His death!  
Isa 53:5 *But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.*  
1Pe 2:24 *He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.*
- Vs 25: *This Cup New Covenant in my blood:* Communion: We revisit the Cross: This is my blood!  
Heb 9:22 *In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.*

**Applic:** It is so very easy for us to forget. We move on to enjoy the blessings and the benefits of what Jesus did for us. But...if we do that without remembering...then we have discounted the price He paid  
**1Pe 1:18** *For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.*

Communion is a Spiritual Remembrance. Reminds us of the very foundation of our faith every time we celebrate it.

**4. Communion Is An Act of Spiritual Judgment.**

1Cor 11:27-32

Be clear what is being said here

None of us are ever worthy.

But we can prepare ourselves...and be morally and spiritually aware of what we are doing.

Aware that the REASON we can come before the Father is BECAUSE of what Jesus did!

Judgement comes in one of two ways.

1Co 11:31

1Co 11:31 *But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment.*

- **We judge ourselves**

We look at Jesus, our Savior.

We look at our hearts...and our sin

We look at what He did...and how unworthy we are...

And we celebrate the LS with that in mind...that we can walk into the presence of God THROUGH His Blood!

*If we don't do that...*

- **Then God judges us.**

He is judging (separating what is right from wrong!)

And if we DON'T do that..then He will

And there is discipline exerted in the life of the one who doesn't separate himself/herself from their sin

Either we discern (separate) from it...or HE separates it from us!

**Applic:** Cool Hand Luke..."We can do this the EASY way..or the HARD Way!"

**CONCL**

This morning we celebrate the LS:

As we do that together:

Look around at your Church Family:

Do it FOR HIM

Remember: Look at the cross...again

Look Within

Unites Us

Obedience

Reminds Us

Judges Us

(Spiritually)

Doing what He commanded

Of the price He paid

We do...or He does...but we are judged

Separated from our sin!

So: As the Deacons come...

Pause...Look within...

At RTBC...If you know Jesus as Lord and Savior...we INVITE you to His table....