

**Lord's Supper, Communion, Eucharist**

**Monday, 8/9/10 – Read Matt 26:26-29**

My Observations \_\_\_\_\_

A Question to Answer: Verse 26 seems to indicate that Jesus blessed the bread. The little word “it” is not there in Greek. The blessing that Jesus gives is a blessing of God for the provision of Bread. When we say grace at our meals, we often bless the food but in reality we should be blessing God for the provision of the food. Blessing is simply is the same word we use for eulogize i.e. it means to speak well about someone. In this case we speak well about God who provides food for our physical lives. In one sense the Lord's Supper is food for our spiritual lives. Do we have as much concern over feeding our spiritual hunger as our physical hunger?

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**Tuesday, 8/10/10 – Read Luke 22:14**

My Observations: \_\_\_\_\_

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A Question to Answer: This is similar to the passage from yesterday but mentions the cup first then the bread and then another cup. This Passover meal celebrated the passing over of the death angel when Israel was in captivity in Egypt. In the context of this meal Jesus desires that his followers remember his death on the cross and subsequent resurrection as the act that relieves us of the concern over death because through the death and resurrection of Jesus, we have the promise of eternal life. What difference should that make in how we live today?

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**Wednesday, 8/11/10 – Read 1 Corinthians 10:14-21**

My Observations: \_\_\_\_\_

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A Question to Answer: The first important element in this passage shows that the Lord's Supper is a sharing process and that it is meant for us to be sharing in Christ's death and then also in his resurrection. The passage also says we should be consistent in our behavior. To take the Lord's Supper on Sunday and to repudiate it by the way we live during the week is inconsistent. We should not be Sunday Christians but carry out the teaching of Jesus throughout the week. How consistent are we during the week?

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**Thursday, 8/12/10 – Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-26**

My Observations: \_\_\_\_\_

A Question to Answer: Here we see that the Lord's Supper was taken in conjunction with a regular meal or we would say pot-luck. But that congregation did not act like one body in Christ and the poorer members were left out. The important point is that the body of Christ is one and there is no one that is better or worse than any other. We are equally sinners and saints in God's eyes and therefore should be the same to each other. How can we implement that ideal in our lives both on Sunday and throughout the week?

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**Friday, 8/13/10 – Read 1 Corinthians 11:24-26**

My Observations: \_\_\_\_\_

A Question to Answer: This is somewhat of a repetition of the passages in Matthew, Mark and Luke but the last part is very important. As often as we eat the bread and drink the cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes, which means his death was not final but he will come again. Thus it means that though Communion represents His death, it should also be a celebration of life because death was overcome. This means that we should live with eternity's values in view. What difference would that make in your life?

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**Saturday, 8/14/10 – Read Mark 14:22-25**

My Observations: \_\_\_\_\_

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A Question to Answer: Note that in reference to the cup, Jesus is said to be giving thanks. The literal Greek word is *eucharistisas* and is the word most often used in very liturgical churches for what we call the Lord's Supper. And this word also indicates the concept of celebration because we can give thanks for what was accomplished by Christ's giving of His body and blood in sacrifice on the cross for our sins. So while we should certainly ask forgiveness for those things, we should celebrate because we are forgiven. How does one live a forgiven life except by being forgiving?

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**Sunday, 8/14/10 – Read John 6:53-57**

My Observations: \_\_\_\_\_

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A Question to Answer: This is a difficult passage especially for Jews who would never think of drinking blood. As a matter of fact most of us would not think of doing that. But since Jesus is standing there, he must not be speaking literally. And since this occurs before His death and resurrection, the followers would not have in mind the Lord's Supper. But John's audience would have that in mind and would see these words as representing the Lord's Supper and see them as spiritual food for their minds and hearts. The real key is in verse 63 "It is the Spirit that gives life, the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life". How can we continue to really live by those words today?

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**What do I hear God saying to me today?**

**What action do I intend to take this week?**

*Each day this week, take a few minutes. Begin with PRAYER. Then READ through the Bible passage indicated on the inside of this guide. WRITE down your own thoughts, reactions, observations. ANSWER THE QUESTION to begin connecting the Bible with your life. Use additional paper or your own notebook if you need more space to write.*