

But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world. - 1 Corinthians 11:32

## I. A STRONG REBUKE

- The church in Corinth is suffering from:
  - 1) Factions; 2) Gluttony and selfishness; 3) A lack of concern for the poor. The Lord's Supper has become only another meal that brings condemnation (Vss. 17-22).
- Paul offers no commendation for such inward-focused actions surrounding a sacrament (Vss. 17, 22).

## II. THE LORD'S SUPPER—AN OVERVIEW

- Paul's instructions come from Jesus, not from oral tradition or personal experience, although oral tradition may also have been delivered to him (Vs. 23; Gal. 1:11-12; Eph. 3:3).
- At the "Last Supper," Jesus shared both bread and wine with his disciples. The bread represented his body, the wine, a new covenant in his blood (Vss. 24-25; Matt. 26:26-29; Mark 14:12-25; Luke 22:7-23; John 13-17).
- The sacrament/ordinance of the Lord's Supper is a visible, tangible, portrayal and proclamation of Jesus' sacrifice (Vs. 26).
- The entire communion gathering revolves around the events that took place "on the night when [Jesus] was betrayed."

## III. A WARNING AND DIRECTIVE

- We should examine ourselves before partaking of the Lord's Supper. It is not just any other meal; it is a remembrance and a participation in the body and blood of Jesus (Vss. 27-29).
- Refusal to do so may lead to restorative discipline in the body of Christ (Vss. 30-32; 2 Thess. 3:14-15).
- We are to defer to one another. The Lord's Supper is about unity, fellowship, and remembrance (Vss. 33-34).

**KNOW:** The Lord's Supper is a serious sacrament. Unity is also a serious command of the Lord, as is caring for one another. The Lord's supper is about fellowship, unity, and remembrance. It is a participation in the body and blood of Jesus.

**DO:** Enter into Communion in a worthy manner.

**Suggested Reading:**

*The Lord's Supper: Eternal Word in Broken Bread* by Robert Letham  
(Available in the LifePoint Adult Library)

*Understanding the Lord's Supper* by Bobby Jamieson  
(Available in the LifePoint Adult Library)

**For Children:**

*Communion: The Lord's Supper: A Guide for Children and their Parents*  
(Available in the LifePoint Kid's Library)

**Next Week's Text:** 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

**Questions/Discovery Points for  
Life Groups/Families**

**Please Read I Corinthians 11:17-34**

1. Paul now turns to admonishing the Corinthians. What is his concern? What problems are present in Corinth?
2. Are these problems present at LifePoint?
3. What positive aspect can factions bring to our community? Does this excuse the fact that many churches have factions within them?
4. What instructions did Paul receive from Jesus? Are they in line with what is revealed to us in the Gospel accounts?
5. How shall we ensure that we do not receive the Lord's Supper in an unworthy manner?
6. What has this text made you wonder about? What will you do about that?