


Day 1

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

The Lord's Supper

¹⁷ In the following directives I have no praise for you, for your meetings do more harm than good.

Q1. What is the "meeting" to which Paul refers?

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Q2. Why might the Corinthian meetings "do more harm than good"??

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Q3. How would the typical person react to Paul's statement?

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¹⁸ In the first place, I hear that when you come together as a church, there are divisions among you, and to some extent I believe it.

Q4. Are divisions in the church acceptable?

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2 Timothy 4:3-4

³ For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. ⁴ They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

Hebrews 13:9^a

Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings.

Acts 17:10

Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

Matthew 12:25

Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand.

Romans 14:1&13^b


¹ Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters. . .

^{13^b} Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brother's way.

Romans 14:19 [The Message (MSG)]

So, let's agree to use all our energy in getting along with each other. Help others with encouraging words; don't drag them down by finding fault.

Day 2

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

¹⁹ No doubt there have to be differences among you to show which of you have God's approval.

Q5. What human characteristics might lead to differences and divisions? Are the characteristics that you listed: good or sinful?

Characteristics?	Good? Or sinful?
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²⁰ When you come together, it is not the Lord's Supper you eat, ²¹ for as you eat, each of you goes ahead without waiting for anybody else. One remains hungry, another gets drunk.

Q6. Based on this very brief description, how would you describe the Corinthian "meetings"?

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Q7. Are the Corinthians practicing servant-hood? Or narcissism (love of oneself)? Why?

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Romans 12:10-16

¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. ¹¹ Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. ¹² Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

¹³ Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

Q8. How does Jesus want us to act toward others?

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²² Don't you have homes to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you for this? Certainly not!


Q9. Why does Paul suggest that they eat and drink in their own homes?


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Q10. How could the Corinthian behavior “humiliate” some?

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Day 3

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today’s study.

 The remainder of this lesson discusses Communion.

 The writer of Hebrews explains the Old Covenant (animal sacrificial system) and the New Covenant (Jesus’ substitutionary death).

Hebrews 8:1-8, &13 [The Message (MSG)]

¹⁻² In essence, we have just such a high priest: authoritative right alongside God, conducting worship in the one true sanctuary built by God.

³⁻⁵ The assigned task of a high priest is to offer both gifts and sacrifices, and it’s no different with the priesthood of Jesus. If he were limited to earth, he wouldn’t even be a priest. We wouldn’t need him since there are plenty of priests who offer the gifts designated in the law [in Jewish worship]. These [earthly] priests provide only a hint of what goes on in the true sanctuary of heaven, which Moses caught a glimpse of as he was about to set up the tent-shrine. It was then that God said, “Be careful to do it exactly as you saw it on the Mountain.”

⁶⁻⁸ But Jesus’ priestly work far surpasses what these other priests do, since he’s working from a far better plan. If the first plan — the old covenant — had worked out, a second wouldn’t have been needed. But we know the first was found wanting . . .

¹³ By coming up with a new plan, a new covenant between God and his people, God put the old plan on the shelf. And there it stays, gathering dust.

Q11. In simple terms, what is the old covenant?


Q12. In simple terms, what is the “new covenant”?

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me."

Q13. What is “bread” especially to the people of the 1st century?

Q14. How can the “bread” be Jesus’ “body”?

Q15. Paul quoted Jesus’ words: “This is my body, which is [given] for you”. What did Jesus mean by this statement?

 The Apostle John recounted Jesus’ teaching that He is the Bread of Life. Jesus had just miraculously fed a crowd of 5,000 men with five small barley loaves and two small fish. People in the crowd asked several questions and Jesus answered. This excerpt is recorded in the Gospel of John, chapter 6.

John 6:26-40

²⁶ Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, you are looking for me, not because you saw miraculous signs but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. ²⁷ Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. On him God the Father has placed his seal of approval."

²⁸ Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?"

²⁹ Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent."

³⁰ So they asked him, "What miraculous sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? ³¹ Our forefathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.' "

³² Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

³⁴ "Sir," they said, "from now on give us this bread."

³⁵ Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty. ³⁶ But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe. ³⁷ All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. ³⁸ For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. ³⁹ And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. ⁴⁰ For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day."


Matthew 26:26-28 [The 1st Communion concluded Jesus' Last Supper with His disciples. The Last Supper occurred earlier in the evening before Jesus, who had sought to pray in the solitude of the Garden of Gethsemane, was betrayed by Judas Iscariot and seized by Roman soldiers; this betrayal and arrest led to His crucifixion and ultimate resurrection.]

²⁶ While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body."

²⁷ Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and offered it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you.

²⁸ This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."

Day 4

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²⁵ In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Q16. What does the "cup" represent?

Q17. What is the significance of "my blood"?

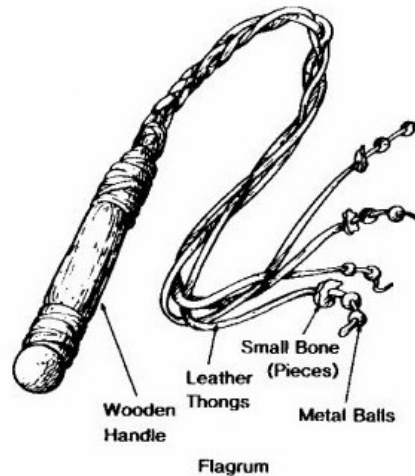
Leviticus 17:11

For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life.

Isaiah 53:3-6

³ He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.

⁴ Surely, he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds [KJV: stripes; deep lacerations from whipping; see the illustration of a "flagrum"] we are healed. ⁶ We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity [sins] of us all.




Source: <https://i.pinimg.com/originals/42/4d/e0/424de05a6d2ffb9e34eeaddade2816e5.jpg>

Hebrews 9: 22

In fact, the [Old Testament] law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

Hebrews 10:19-21 [The Message (MSG)]

So, friends, we can now — without hesitation — walk right up to God, into “the Holy Place.” Jesus has cleared the way by the blood of his sacrifice, acting as our priest before God. The “curtain” into God’s presence is his body.


 The Book of Hebrews discusses “Faith” in detail. Outside of this lesson, please consider reading Hebrews chapters 9-13 with emphasis on chapter 11.

²⁶ For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Q18. How does the practice of Communion “proclaim the Lord’s death”?

Q19. What does the phrase “until He comes” mean to you?

Day 5

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²⁷ Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord.

Q20. How might a person participate in Communion in an unworthy manner? (See verse 29)

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Q21. Does Communion itself take away our sin? Or is a prayer of confession & repentance required?

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²⁸ A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup.

Q22. We are asked to “examine” ourselves before Communion. What does the examination reveal to us? And then what should we do?

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2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Acts 5:30-31 [While standing in the temple courts, the Apostle Peter preached:]

³⁰ The God of our fathers raised Jesus from the dead -- whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree.

³¹ God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might give repentance and forgiveness of sins to Israel [and gentile believers].


Acts 20:21

I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus.

2 Corinthians 7:10 [In Paul’s 2nd letter to the Corinthians he wrote:]

Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

Day 6

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

²⁹ For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself.

Q23. What is the "judgment" that we can bring upon ourselves?

³⁰ That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep.

Q24. Generally, what does the phrase "fallen asleep" mean?

³¹ But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment.

Q25. How can we "judge... ourselves"?

Q26. Why doesn't the person who judges herself/himself "come under judgment"?

³² When we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned with the world.

Q27. Does the Lord ever discipline us?

Q28. Why does the Lord's discipline seem to cause us "not to be condemned with the world"?

³³ So then, my brothers, when you come together to eat, wait for each other. ³⁴ If anyone is hungry, he should eat at home, so that when you meet together it may not result in judgment.

And when I come, I will give further directions.

Q29. Evidently, the Corinthian church had turned Holy Communion into something unholy. What did Paul suggest to the Corinthians as a way to fix their perspective on “Communion”.

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