

## Communion Service

### Communion & The Cross



At the heart of the Lord's Supper is the cross. Without the cross the Lord's Supper has no meaning. Jesus said to remember Him and the work of the cross every time we partake of the Lord's Supper.

#### **Introduction: Salvation In the Cross** Rom 10:8-9; 13

1. **Faith and salvation:** Salvation is made possible by the atoning work of Christ on the cross. Faith in Christ (His finished atoning work on the cross) brings salvation.
2. **The Lord's Supper:** The Lord's Supper points to the cross and reminds us of Christ's atoning work—but participating in communion does not lead to salvation.

#### **A. The Body of Christ** 1 Cor 11:24; Psalm 40:6; Heb 10:5

1. **A prepared body:** Christ's body was prepared especially for Him for one purpose. Jesus was the 'perfect' sacrifice—the Lamb of God. God became Man with the full intention that His
2. **The Body and communion:** *“And as they were eating, Jesus took bread and blessed it, and brake it and gave it to the disciples, and said, ‘Take eat; this is my body.’”* Matt 26:26

*Eating the bread is symbolic of our identification with His broken Body—perfect and given up for me.*

#### **B. The Cup of Christ** 1 Cor 11:25;

1. **The shed blood:** The cup represents His shed blood testifying to the fact the “New Testament” (New Covenant) is in the giving of His life. His blood was pure, untainted, and unspoiled by sin—for He never sinned.
2. **The cup and communion:** His shed blood is a symbol of His life poured out for us. *“And He took the cup, and gave thanks and gave it to them, saying ‘Drink ye all of it; for this is my blood of the new testament which is shed for many for the remission of sins.’”* Matt 26:27-28

*Drinking the cup is symbolic of His life poured out for us for salvation.*

#### **Action: Do in Remembrance** 1 Cor 11:23-25; 1:22-25

1. **Remembering the cross:** Without the death of Christ (remission of sins) salvation would not be possible. His death is the most important event in history!
2. **This do as often:** v. 1 Cor 11:25 How **often** do you first look to yourself or others for answers before looking to Jesus—to the power of the cross? If you look to the Lord and wait for Him, He will see you through. How often do you think of the cross? Will you look to the cross today?

***Because of the cross only the Lord can...***

#### ***1 Cor. 11:23-25 (NKJV)***

**23** For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; **24** and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” **25** In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

#### ***Romans 10:8-9; 13 (NKJV)***

**8** But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith which we preach): **9** that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

**13** For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”

#### ***Psalms 40:6 (NKJV)***

**6** Sacrifice and offering You did not desire;

My ears You have opened.

Burnt offering and sin offering You did not require.

#### ***Hebrews 10:5 (NKJV)***

**5** Therefore, when He came into the world, He said:

“Sacrifice and offering You did not desire,

But a body You have prepared for Me.

#### ***1 Corinthians 1:22-25 (NKJV)***

**22** For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; **23** ***but we preach Christ crucified***, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, **24** but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. **25** Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

