

# LORD'S SUPPER

*A Memorial Table*

Study #12

### Checklist

- This Lesson
- Spiritual Journal
- Gospel Tracts
- For Next Session**
- Lesson M
- Tithing Tract
- God's Secret of Success booklet

**H**ere is a subject that requires careful study of the Word of God. Like baptism, the ordinance of the Lord's Supper is generally misunderstood and there seems to have arisen many substitutes for the real thing.

The only references to the Lord's Supper in the New Testament are the Gospels' accounts in Matthew 26:17-30, Mark 14:12-26, Luke 22:7-20, and in Paul's first epistle to the Corinthians (in which he actually rebukes the church for its serious disorders at the Lord's table) – 1 Corinthians 10:14-22 and 11:17-34.

Before doing this lesson, carefully read each of these passages above.

### Lesson Overview

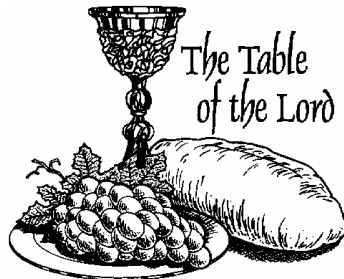
- I. What Is The Lord's Supper?
- II. What Is The Symbolism Of The Lord's Supper?
- III. Who Should Observe The Lord's Supper?
- IV. How Do We Observe The Lord's Supper?
- V. What Does The Bible Say About The Roman Catholic Mass?

### Informal

**Conversation –**  
Ask about his week.  
Ask about answers to the prayer requests you have shared.

### Discuss Last Week's Assignments –

1. Ask him to share his Scriptural insights, prayers, and applications from his Spiritual Journal.
2. Share one of your Quiet Times.
3. Exchange highlights of your sermon notes.
4. Ask him about his effort of handing out a gospel tract.



## I. WHAT IS THE LORD'S SUPPER?

A. *Notice the Scriptural Terminology*

© Christian Mentoring from A to Z

Read page one with your Timothy.

Review all of I. WHAT IS THE LORD'S SUPPER?

There are only *three* Bible terms:

1. C\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Corinthians 10:16)
2. The L\_\_\_\_\_ ' \_\_\_\_\_ T\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Corinthians 10:21)
3. The L\_\_\_\_\_ ' \_\_\_\_\_ S\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Corinthians 11:20)

The Bible does not use the following terms: “The Mass,” “Holy Communion,” and “Eucharist.”

**B. It is an O\_\_\_\_\_ of the church.**

*(1 Corinthians 11:2) “Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and **keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you.**”*

*(1 Corinthians 11:23) “For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread. . . .”*

In 1 Corinthians 11:2 and 23 the connecting phrase “. . . I delivered unto you . . .” shows that the Lord’s Supper is one of those ordinances Paul delivered.

**What is an ordinance?**  
It is “an outward rite appointed by Christ to be administered in the church as a visible sign of the saving truth of the Christian faith.”

**C. When we partake of the Lord's Supper, we:**

1. Do it in R\_\_\_\_\_ of Christ (1 Corinthians 11:24, 25).
2. Do S\_\_\_\_\_ the Lord's death (1 Corinthians 11:26).

**D. Is the observance of the Lord's Supper commanded, or is it a choice?**

See: 1  
Corinthians  
11:24, 25.  
It is \_\_\_\_\_.

**From these Scriptures we conclude that the Lord's Supper is:** (Check the correct boxes)

- A Symbol, or  
 A Sacrament
- A Means of Grace, or  
 A Memorial

**Ask:**  
 What is a sacrament?  
 Answer – it implies a means of conveying grace from God upon the recipient. God's grace is NOT conveyed through participation in the Lord's Supper. This is why we do not use this term.

**II. WHAT IS THE SYMBOLISM OF THE LORD'S SUPPER?**

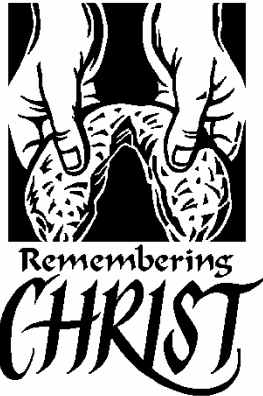
**A. The Elements of the Supper**

- Unleavened B\_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 26:17, 26; 1 Corinthians 11:23)
- The F\_\_\_\_\_ of the V\_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 26:29)

NOTE: 1 Corinthians uses the term, the \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Corinthians 11:25,26)

**B. The Symbolism Of The Bread**

The bread pictures the B\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ B\_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 11:24). This reminds us of the terrible suffering of our Lord, though not a bone in His body was broken. Read: Isaiah 52:14; Isaiah 53:4-7; Matthew 27:29-31; John 19:31-37.



**Comment:**  
 The unleavened bread symbolizes the body of Jesus Christ. He was broken (crucified) for us.

The grape juice symbolizes Christ's blood that was shed.

**C. The Symbolism Of The Cup**

The cup (grape juice) pictures the S\_\_\_\_\_  
B\_\_\_\_\_  
of the Lord Jesus Christ (1  
Corinthians 11:25). This reminds us that without the  
shedding of the blood of Christ, there could be no  
R\_\_\_\_\_ of sin (Hebrews 9:22).  
Read 1 Peter 1:18,19.

**Note:** Nowhere does the Bible refer to “wine” as part of the Lord's Supper. Alcoholic (fermented) wine is a result of the action of yeast (leaven). Leaven is a symbol of sin – 1 Corinthians 5:6,7. Thus alcoholic wine and leavened bread would be invalid symbols of the sinless Son of God.

**Review** the “wine” note in the box on this page.  
  
There is an article on wine at the end of the X lesson.

**D. The Purpose Of The Lord's Supper**

Like the ordinance of baptism, the Lord's Supper is a picture of Jesus Christ.

1. Baptism is a picture of our Lord's  
D\_\_\_\_\_, B\_\_\_\_\_, and  
R\_\_\_\_\_.
2. When we observe the Lord's Supper we set forth symbolically the L\_\_\_\_\_'  
D\_\_\_\_\_ until He comes (1 Corinthians 11:26).

**Comment:**  
Use each Lord's Supper as a time to reflect and meditate upon the wonderful sacrifice Christ made for you. While the bread and juice is being distributed you may want to do one of the following:

- Pray thanksgiving to God.
- Read crucifixion passages in your Bible.
- Read hymns that sing about the crucifixion.
- Meditate about the grace of God in accomplishing your salvation.

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**III. WHO SHOULD OBSERVE THE LORD'S SUPPER?**

**A. According to Matthew 26:20, who was present when Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper (during the Passover meal)? \_\_\_\_\_**

**B. Look up: 1 Corinthians 11:17-21**  
The Apostle Paul is rebuking the church at Corinth for turning the simple memorial Supper into a

drunken orgy-type feast. However, note the following:

v.17 – “ye C\_\_\_\_\_ T\_\_\_\_\_.”

v.18 – “ye come together in the C\_\_\_\_\_.”

v.20 – “ye come together into O\_\_\_\_  
P\_\_\_\_\_.”

**C.** *According to 1 Corinthians 1:2a, to whom was this letter initially addressed?*

“...the C\_\_\_\_\_ of God which is at C\_\_\_\_\_.”

**D.** *According to 1 Cor. 12:27, 28a, what did this group of people constitute? The C\_\_\_\_\_*

**E.** *Conclusion: The Lord's Supper is a church ordinance. It is given to the Lord's churches to observe.*

**From these verses whom do you conclude the ordinance of the Lord's Supper was given to?**

- Any Christian
- The church
- Any organization

**Comment:**  
As a church we practice close communion.

**Open communion =** anyone and everyone is invited to participate in the Lord's Supper.

**Closed communion =** only the Christians who are members of the church are invited to participate in the Lord's Supper.

**Close communion =** Christians who are present in our church on the night of the Lord's Supper are invited to participate if: They are genuinely saved, baptized, and members (in good standing) of a New Testament church.

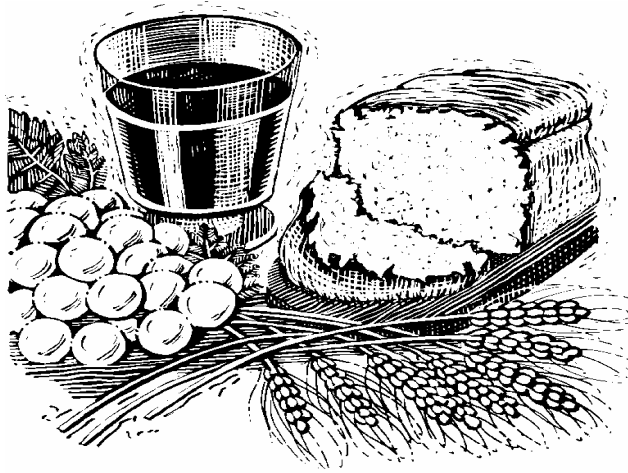
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#### IV. HOW DO WE OBSERVE THE LORD'S SUPPER?

**A.** *How Often?*

The Bible does not give a definite time to observe the Lord's Supper (1 Corinthians 11:26 simply says, “A\_\_ O\_\_\_\_\_ A\_\_.”

**Comment:**  
We purposely do not schedule the Lord's Supper in a routine way, for example, on the first Sunday of each month. We do not want such a memorable event to become unmemorably common.



**B.** *According to 1 Corinthians 11:28, the observance of the Lord's Supper should be preceded by solemn self-E\_\_\_\_\_.*

- **Note:** Eating “unworthily” means “in an unworthy manner” as the context shows (verse 29).
- **Note:** The word “damnation” means “severe judgment” (even physical death) (verse 30).

**C.** *When observing the Lord's Supper, the elements are distributed to the members, then all eat (or drink) together.*

**D.** *Following the observance of the Lord's Supper, the meeting closes with the singing of an H\_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 26:30).*

**Comment:**

Do not take the Lord's Supper with an unrepentant heart. Confess your sin and be restored to fellowship with God. Then freely participate in communion. Don't follow the Corinthians' bad example.

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**V. WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC “MASS”?**

This section is included because of the vast amount of confusion regarding the meaning and benefit of the Lord's Supper.

**A. *What Are Roman Catholics Taught?***

1. The “mass” is the sacrifice of Jesus Christ Who is really present on the altar. The priest offers him to God for the living and the dead.
2. Upon the words of consecration by the priest, “*Hoc est corpus meum,*” the wafer and the alcoholic wine literally change into the real flesh and blood of Christ. This is called “transubstantiation.”
3. That observance of the mass is a means of grace (part of salvation) whereby the person actually eats the real flesh of Jesus. It is a mortal sin to not receive “Holy Communion” at Easter.

**Comment:**

Pray and witness to your Catholic friends and family members. They need to receive Christ alone for salvation. It is by faith alone that we are saved, not faith plus works, faith plus the sacraments, faith plus the church. Catholic theology is hopelessly flawed in this area; it is “another gospel,” and it is heresy.

**B. *How Did This Teaching Originate?***

The doctrine of transubstantiation can be traced to the 9<sup>th</sup> Century writings of Paschasius Radbertus. It was declared a doctrine by Pope Innocent III in 1215 AD at the Council of Lateran IV. It is “based” upon a misinterpretation of Matthew 26:26-28 and John 6:53-58.

**C. *What Does The Bible Have To Say?***

1. Eating blood is forbidden by the Law (Leviticus 17:10; Matthew 5:17).
2. Idolatry is forbidden (1 John 5:21; Exodus 20:4-5). Roman Catholics are taught to worship the “Host.”
3. Jesus spoke symbolically in Matthew 26:26 because He was literally present. “*This is my body*” means “This represents My body.”  
An exact word-for-word interpretation of this passage would also require the same for every passage, for example, Matthew 16:23.

Uh! Oh! (Roman Catholics are also taught that Peter was the first pope, and Jesus just called him Satan!)

4. Jesus explains John 6:53-58 by John 6:63. This passage refers to a spiritual partaking of Jesus Christ, Who is **metaphorically** the “Living Bread” (John 6:51).
5. The death of the Lord Jesus Christ was sufficient and once and for all. The continual, repetitious “sacrifice” of Christ by Roman Catholic priests is a denial of the finished work of Christ. See: John 19:30; Hebrews 10:10-12.
6. How can a priest make Christ? The creature cannot make the Creator!

**Comment:**

We announce about a week ahead of time when we will be having the Lord's Supper.

**Encourage** your Timothy and cast a vision for him regarding spiritual growth.

Pray for him and have him pray aloud.

**REMEMBER!!!**  
**Turn in the “Discipler Report Back” page by dropping it off at the Hospitality Booth in the church foyer.**

**SPIRITUAL GROWTH ASSIGNMENT** .....

- Read your M Lesson (**M**oney) and answer all the questions. Look up the lesson's Bible references in God's Word.
- Continue reading through the New Testament *at your own pace*.
- Take sermon notes using your *Spiritual Journal* and be prepared to share highlights next week.
- Give out copies of *The Amazing Story Behind Amazing Grace*.
- Where would you like to meet for next week's session? Be sure to bring your Bible, pen, **M** Lesson, and *Spiritual Journal*.



# Discipler Report Back

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I met with \_\_\_\_\_ on  
\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ and reviewed the contents of this  
lesson. My comments regarding the discipleship time  
together are:

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*(make comments only if they are needed to help the Pastoral  
staff assist you in ministering to this person)*

Discipler's Name \_\_\_\_\_

*Please drop this off at the Hospitality Booth in the  
church foyer on the first service after conducting  
this session. This will help the Pastoral staff stay  
current with the status of our new converts and  
new members being discipled.*

*Thank You*

**This is a  
sample of  
the  
“Discipler  
Report  
Back” page  
that you  
removed  
from the  
back of your  
Timothy’s  
lesson.**

**Return that  
sheet to the  
Hospitality  
Booth in the  
church foyer.**