

**Why We Do What We Do**  
**Lord's Supper**  
**I Cor. 11:23-26**

Introduction:

We partake of the Lord's Supper each Sunday, but why? Why do we do this? What is the point of it? Where did it begin and how often are we to partake of it?

- I. Notice the purpose of the Lord's Supper (23-26).
  - A. Paul tells the church in Corinth to do just as Jesus did on the night in which He was betrayed.
  - B. Paul also gives the purpose of the Lord's Supper.
    1. We remember His sacrifice (24-25) and "proclaim the Lord's death till He comes" (26).
    2. Today, we glorify violence in movies and games.
    3. Notice some of the details surrounding His death from Matthew.
      - a. False testimony was brought against Jesus – 26:59.
      - b. He was spat on, beat and mocked – 26:67-68.
      - c. He was denied by His closest friends – 26:69-75.
        1. Mt. 26:56 – "All the disciples forsook Him and fled."
      - d. Scourged by Pilate – 27:26.
        1. This was worse than just a beating.
        2. Pieces of bone and broken glass were tied into the whip
      - e. He was again made fun of – 27:27-31.
        1. They put a scarlet robe on Him.
        2. They beat a crown of thorns onto His head.
        3. They bowed down and mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!"
        4. Is. 50:6 – "I gave My back to those who struck Me, and My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting."
      - f. Finally, He was nailed to the cross.
        1. He had to carry His own cross – John 19:17.
        2. The cross was a rough piece of wood with many splinters to be put through an already beaten back.
        3. Jesus would have to push off of the nails in His feet in order to breathe, causing great pain.
  - C. It may not be a pleasant thing to think about, but this is what Jesus went through for us.
  - D. His blood was shed for many
    1. Mt. 26:28 – "For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."
    2. Heb. 2:9 – "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone."

3. I Pet. 2:21-24
  - E. Jesus died so that we do not have to.
  - F. Now Jesus wants us to proclaim His death.
- II. Jesus is coming again.
- A. Jesus is preparing a place for us – John 14:1-4.
  - B. Just as Jesus ascended into heaven, He is coming back.
    1. Acts 1:11 “who also said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.’”
  - C. When He comes again, He will take all of God’s children home – I Thes. 4:13-18
  - D. We proclaim the death of Christ “till He comes” (26).
- III. Now Jesus asks us to remember Him and the sacrifice that He gave us (24-25).
- A. Jesus tells us that we are to partake of the Lord’s Supper (24-25).
  - B. We have the approved example of when.
    1. Acts 20:7 “Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight.”
    2. Because this is when the early church did it, we partake of the Lord’s Supper every first day of the week.

Conclusion:

What are you thinking about when you partake of the Lord’s Supper? If we are not thinking of the right thing, His death, then we “are guilty of the body and blood of the Lord” (I Cor. 11:27) and we “eat and drink judgment to himself” (I Cor. 11:28).