

## LORD'S SUPPER FAQS

The roots of Christianity are in Judaism. The origin of this supper is found in the celebration of the Jewish Passover. The death angel was going to come through Egypt. The Jewish people were to have a special meal prepared in anticipation of the freedom God was giving them. For the meal, an animal was killed as a sacrifice for the sins of the people. God taught the Jews the high price that must be paid for sin by sacrificing an animal. The animal was a substitute for them and the blood of the animal was shed for their sin. (See Exodus 12:1-4.)

On the last week of Jesus' life on earth He wanted to celebrate the Passover with His disciples. On this night the Passover became the first "Lord's Supper." Jesus took the elements of the Passover and gave them their full meaning. He took the bread and said it represented His body. He took the wine and said it represented His blood. The Lord's Supper reminds Christians of the sacrifice Jesus made for their sins. (See Luke 22: 15-20.)

### 1. How often do we celebrate the Lord's Supper?

We celebrate the Lord's Supper as a church family at least once each quarter during all of our regular Sunday morning worship services.

### 2. Who is invited to participate in the Lord's Supper?

The Lord's Supper is open to anyone who has placed their faith in Christ for salvation; we do not limit participation to those who are church members.

Parents with children who have not yet repented and believed in Christ are encouraged to discuss this with their children before the Lord's Supper service so they understand why they should not partake of the juice and the cracker as it is served.

### 3. What if I am unable to attend church, can the Lord's Supper be served in my home?

We believe that the Lord's Supper is a church ordinance which means that it is to be observed when the church is gathered for corporate worship. For this reason it is not our practice to serve the Lord's Supper at times and locations other than a stated worship service of the church.

## **Our Preparation for the Lord's Supper**

The Lord's Supper is never to be taken lightly. One essential understanding of the Lord's Supper is that it is to be a time of personal spiritual examination. So how do we prepare for the Lord's Supper?

**By examining our hearts for any sin.**

Paul said in 1 Cor. 11:27-29: *"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. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself."*

**By confessing our sins and repenting of them.**

1 John 1:9 – *"If we confess our sin, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

**By restoring broken relationships.**

Matthew 5:23-24 – *"Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift."*

**By consecrating our lives as living sacrifices to the Lord.**

Romans 12:1 – *"I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service."*

**By rejoicing in the return of Jesus Christ and the consummation of redemptive history.**

1 Corinthians 11:26 – *"For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes."*