

# Sunday Centerpoint

## Key Takeaways:

1. Jesus wanted to be remembered for His sacrifice on the cross, which He symbolized through the Last Supper
2. The Passover connection shows Jesus as the new and better lamb whose blood saves us
3. Communion is not just ritual - it requires intentional focus to avoid going through the motions
4. Jesus' sacrifice transforms three dimensions of our lives: past (forgiveness), present (community), and future (hope)

## Discussion Questions:

1. Jason mentioned there was "no requirement to have the blood of the lamb on the doorpost" - you didn't have to be good enough. How does this truth challenge or comfort you?
2. Why do you think Jesus skipped over discussing the lamb during the Last Supper? What does this tell us about His identity and mission?
3. Read John 6:60, 66. Why was Jesus' teaching about eating His body and drinking His blood so offensive that many disciples left Him?
4. How has growing up in church or being familiar with communion potentially desensitized you to the radical nature of what Jesus was saying?
5. Six Ways to Approach Communion
  - a. Look Back - When you take communion, how often do you truly reflect on the brutality of the cross and what Jesus endured for you?
  - b. Look Forward - Read Matthew 26:29. How does the promise of sharing this meal again with Jesus in His Father's kingdom give you hope? How does this change how you live now?
  - c. Look Inward - Read 1 Corinthians 11:27-29. What does it mean to take communion in an "unworthy manner"? How can we examine ourselves before partaking?
  - d. Look Up - The temple curtain being torn (Matthew 27:51) symbolized direct access to God. How does Jesus' sacrifice change your relationship with God compared to Old Testament times?
  - e. Look Around - Jason suggested that communion is meant to be communal, not just individual. How can we better recognize our connection with other believers when we take communion?
  - f. Look Out - How would you explain to a non-Christian why you participate in communion.

## Practical Applications:

1. Write it down: Before next Sunday's communion, write out a brief reflection covering all six perspectives (back, forward, inward, up, around, out) to help you prepare your heart.
2. Memorize Scripture: one of the following passages: Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Exodus 12:26-27
3. Practice looking around: This Sunday, make a point to greet someone before or after communion, acknowledging your shared faith and community.

