FAMILY

TRADITIONS

TRA-DI-TION: 1. a time-honored practice

- 2. the passing down of elements of a culture from generation to generation
 - 3. an inherited, established, or customary pattern of thought, action, or behavior

CHRISTIAN

FAMILY

TRADITIONS



In the Bible...

There are two sacraments...

(holy ritual - ceremony -, symbolical ordinances - order; a decree)

Which Christians are commanded by Jesus to practice and observe:

Communion and Water Baptism



Communion and Water Baptism

The purpose of both...

Is to signify by *outward symbolism*,
what *Jesus has accomplished* in a believer's life through faith in Christ.

As true believers,
we are both *instructed* and *commanded* to submit
to both as *expressions* of our faith





Different Names...

There are two different names which are often used (traditionally) to identify *The Lord's Supper...*

First -

Some churches (more liturgical – have defined liturgy – repetitive order of service) call it the "Eucharist"... (from the Greek –eucharistia) which means "to give thanks; thanksgiving; or praise for the wonderful works of God"

This describes the first aspect of the Lord's supper.

We are "giving thanks" to Jesus for coming and paying the price for our sins.



Different Names...

There are two different names which are often used (traditionally) to identify The Lord's Supper...

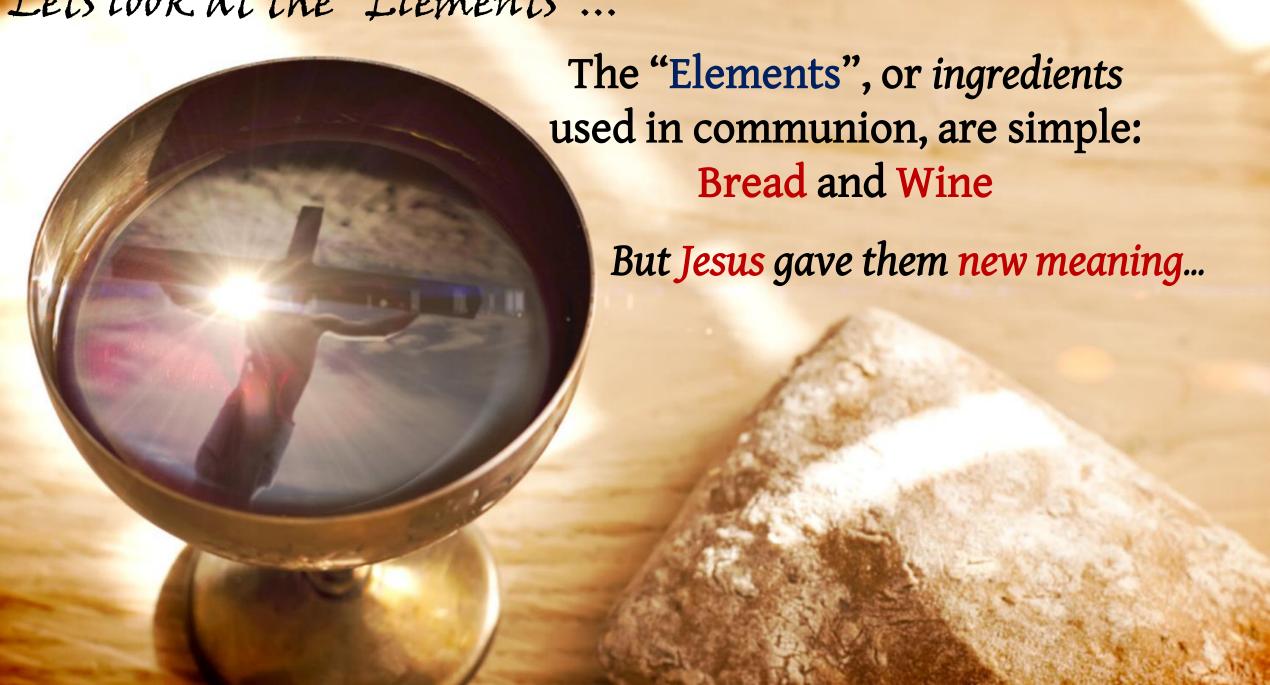
Second -

Some churches (less liturgical) call it "Communion"...
This is our English translation of the NT Greek word,
"koinonia" which means, "fellowship, association,
community, communion, joint participation."

The NT writers used it to describe the *sharing*, *intimacy*, *participation and fellowship* which believers have with Christ and one another.



Lets look at the "Elements"...



1 Corinthians 11:23-26

(MSG)

Let me go over with you again exactly what goes on in the Lord's Supper and why it is so centrally important. I received my instructions from the Master himself and passed them on to you.

The Master, Jesus, on the night of his betrayal, *took bread*. Having given thanks, He broke it and said,

This is my body, broken for you.

Do this to remember me.

After supper, He did the same thing with the cup:

This cup is my blood, my new covenant with you. Each time you drink this cup, remember me.



1 Corinthians 11:23-26

(MSG)

What you must (*seriously*) realize is that every time you eat this bread and every time you drink this cup, you reenact in your words and actions the death of the Master.

You will be drawn back to this meal again and again until the Master returns.

You must never let familiarity breed contempt.

Contempt: lack of respect or reverence for something



1 Corinthians 11:27-34

(MSG)

Anyone who eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Master *irreverently* is like part of the crowd that jeered and spit on Him at His death.

Is that the kind of "remembrance" you want to be part of?

Examine your motives, test your heart, come to this meal in holy awe.

²⁹⁻³² If you give no thought (or worse, don't care) about the broken body of the Master when you eat and drink, you're running the risk of serious consequences

That's why so many of you even now are listless and sick, and others have gone to an early grave.



1 Corinthians 11:37-34

(MSG)

If we get this straight now, we won't have to be straightened out later on. Better to be confronted by the Master now than to face a fiery confrontation later.

³³⁻³⁴ So, my friends, when you come together to the Lord's Table, be reverent and courteous with one another. If you're so hungry that you can't wait to be served, go home and get a sandwich.

But by no means risk turning this Meal into an eating and drinking binge or a family squabble.

It is a spiritual meal—a love feast



"...do this in remembrance of me" Luke 22:19

Remembrance: something that serves to keep a person or thing in mind

"Remembrance" is one of the means which God uses to refocus our lives and bring our thoughts, desires and motives back into agreement with our declaration of faith.

- Repetition "without" meaning produces "empty rituals"
- **A Repetition "with" meaning produces... "Remembrance"**



How does "Communion" do that?

1. It reminds us that "all" our sins have been forgiven and we have been cleansed because He suffered and died in our place.

This creates a thankfulness towards God, producing true, heartfelt worship.

Hebrews 12:28-29

(NIV)

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for our "God is a consuming fire".



How does "Communion" do that?

2. We realize, once again, that the life we now live is a gift of God.

Therefore, we should no longer live for ourselves but for Him who died for us

2 Corinthians 5:14

For Christ's love *compels us*, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And He died for all, that those who live *should no longer live for themselves* but for *Him who died for them and was raised again*.



How does "Communion" do that?

And Last ...

It bridges the gap between His first and second coming.

1 Corinthians 11:26

For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you *proclaim* the Lord's death until He comes

Proclaim: to praise or glorify openly or publicly

It reminds us to live each day convinced of His imminent return...



"Communion" gives us the opportunity to ...

"Encounter" God... to Experience "Koinonia"...

The sharing, the intimacy, the participation and the fellowship which we are to have with Jesus and one another.

John 14:19-20

Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. *Because I live, you also will live*. On that day you will realize that *I am in my Father*, and *you are in me*, and *I am in you*.





1 Corinthians 11:23-24

The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it...

Make this personal... take the bread and say this with me...

"This is (your) body [Lord Jesus], which is given for (me); (I)do this in remembrance of (you)."



1 Corinthians 11:25

In the same way, after supper He took the cup...

Make this personal... take the cup and say this with me...

"This cup is the new covenant in (your) blood [Lord Jesus]; (I) do (this), in remembrance of (you)."







New Series Beginning Sunday-March 7th

Written by: Francis Chan

GOD IS CALLING YOU

TO A PASSIONATE LOVE RELATIONSHIP WITH HIMSELF.

BECAUSE THE ANSWER TO RELIGIOUS COMPLACENCY
ISN'T WORKING HARDER
AT A LIST OF DOS AND DO'NTS
IT'S FALLING IN LOVE WITH GOD.

OVERWHELMED BY A RELENTLESS GOD