

The Lord Supper – Activating Our Position 1 Corinthians 11:17-32

One of the things I've learned about the Lord through the years is that He wants to bless our lives...

He knows everything about our lives...

- ***The good, bad, and ugly***
- ***He knows it all!***

And yet, in spite of all that, He wants to bless us!

Sir, the Lord knows about that SICKNESS and wants to HEAL YOU...

Ma'am, the Lord knows about that SORROW and wants to DELIVER YOU...

Young man, the Lord knows about that STRONGHOLD of SIN and wants to SET YOU FREE...

Young lady, the Lord knows about that SHAME and wants to COVER YOU...

Husband and Wife, the Lord knows about your SEPARATION and wants to HEAL YOUR MARRIAGE...

If someone were to ask you, "What is the purpose of the Lord's Supper?" what would you say?

Is the Lord's Supper a big deal?

I mean, if I don't take of the Lord's Supper, is that any big deal?

ONE THING

Many people enter the activity of the Lord's supper without entering the victory of the Lord's sacrifice

Not for salvation

Not merely symbolic

As we go together on this Lord's Supper journey there are FIVE STAGES through which we must pass...

→ Pic – Stage 1



1 Corinthians 11:17–22 (ESV) — But in the following instructions I do not commend you, because when you come together it is not for the better but for the worse. For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you. And I believe it in part, for there must be factions among you in order that those who are genuine among you may be recognized. When you come together, it is not the Lord's supper that you eat. For in eating, each one goes ahead with his own

meal. One goes hungry, another gets drunk. What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I commend you in this? No, I will not.

NOTICE – Paul couldn't commend them in their practices regarding the Lord Supper...

Selfishness...

Self-centeredness...

Drunkenness...

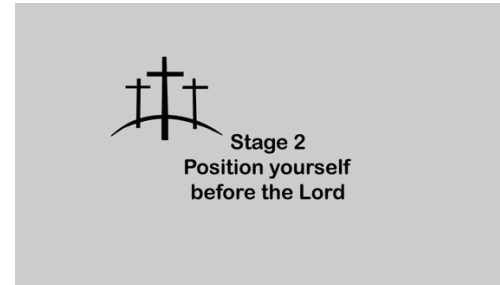
By-in-large, the Corinthian church had minimized the meaning of the Lord Supper and therefore neutralized the power of the Lord Supper...

**The Lord Supper is not for salvation
Nor is it merely symbolic**

**The Lord Supper is the activity of placing ourselves
into the victory of the Cross of Jesus!**

**Many people enter the activity of the Lord's supper
without entering the victory of the Lord's sacrifice**

→ Pic – Stage 2



1 Corinthians 11:26 (ESV)

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

What are we proclaiming about the death of Jesus?

On the cross, Jesus carried...

... All Our Sins

1 Peter 2:24 (NLT)

He personally carried our sins in his body on the cross so that we can be dead to sin and live for what is right. By his wounds you are healed.

On the cross, Jesus carried...

... All Our Sins

... All Our Shame

Genesis 2:25 (ESV)

And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

Oh how much GUILT, REGRET, and SHAME do believers carry!

Psalm 32:1–5 (ESV)

**Blessed is the one whose
transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.**

**Blessed is the man against whom
the LORD counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

**For when I kept silent,
my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.**

**For day and night your hand
was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up
as by the heat of summer.**

**I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my iniquity;
I said, “I will confess
my transgressions to the LORD,”
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

**1 John 1:9 (ESV) — If we confess our sins, he is faithful and
just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all
unrighteousness.**

On the cross, Jesus carried...

... All Our Sins

... All Our Shame

... All Our Separation

1 Timothy 2:5 (ESV)

**... there is one mediator between God and men, the man
Christ Jesus**

Romans 8:39 (NLT)

**No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed,
nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from
the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

On the cross, Jesus carried...

... All Our Sins

... All Our Shame

... All Our Separation

... All Our Slavery

John 8:36 (ESV)

So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

**Colossians 1:13 (NLT) — For he has rescued us from the
kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom
of his dear Son**

On the cross, Jesus carried...

... All Our Sins

... All Our Shame

... All Our Separation

... All Our Slavery

... All Our Sorrows

Isaiah 53:3 (ESV)

**He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows,
and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide
their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.**

On the cross, Jesus carried...

... All Our Sins

... All Our Shame

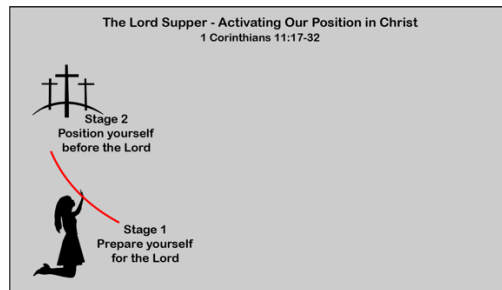
... All Our Separation

... All Our Slavery
... All Our Sorrows
... All Our Sicknesses

Matthew 8:17 (NIV)

This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: “He took up our infirmities and bore our diseases.”

→ **Pic – Picture Outline – Stage 2**



→ **Pic – Five Stages – Stage 3**



1 Corinthians 11:27–28 (ESV)

Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

EXAMINE YOUR SPIRITUAL POSITION

Have you given your life to Jesus?

The Lord Supper is only for believers

Romans 8:16 (ESV)

The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God

→ **Judas was not a believer**

- **Before the Last Supper Jesus went to wash His disciples feet... (John 13)**
- **When Jesus went to wash Peter’s feet**
- **Peter wasn’t going to let Him**
- **“If I do not wash you, you have no share with me.” (JN 13:8)**
- **Peter said, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!”**

John 13:10–11 (ESV)

Jesus said to him, “The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you.” For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

So, today, before we begin the Lord’s Supper...

Has Jesus cleansed you?

If you have never given your life to Jesus you can today!

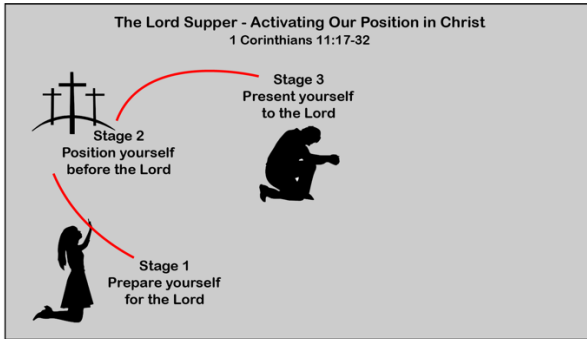
Psalm 139:23–24 (ESV) — Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be

any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!

Acts 3:19–20a (ESV)

Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord ...

→ Pic – Picture Outline – Stage 3



→ Pic – Five Stages – Stage 4



1 Corinthians 10:16–17 (ESV)

The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a

participation in the body of Christ? ¹⁷ Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

The word used is koinonia

This word means “fellowship”

1 Corinthians 1:9 (ESV)

God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Because of this FELLOWSHIP, we can REJOICE!

→ → Taking of the Bread ← ←

Take the bread in your hand.

As you look at the bread, think about the body of Jesus.

John 15:13 (ESV)

Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

1 Corinthians 11:23–24 (ESV)

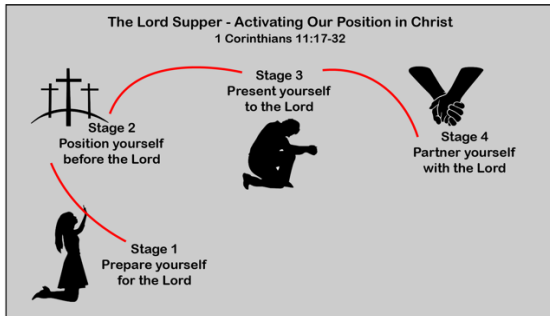
For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

→ → Taking of the Juice ← ←

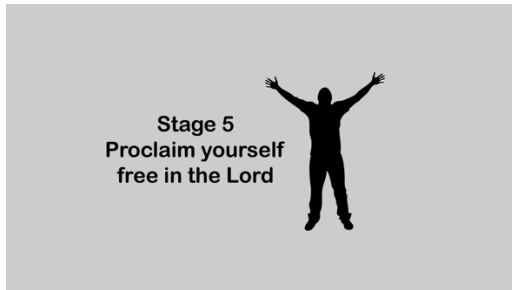
1 Corinthians 11:25 (ESV) — In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new

covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

→ Pic – Picture Outline – Stage 4



→ Pic – Five Stages – Stage 5



1 Corinthians 11:29 (ESV)
For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.

What is being referred to when Paul tells us to “...discern the body”?

Three Things

First, the Body of Jesus

1 John 3:8b (ESV)
... The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.

Second, the Body of Believers

Ephesians 1:22–23 (ESV)
And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

But the Corinthians were coming together and causing divisions...

1 Corinthians 11:18a (ESV)
For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you...

Is there self-centeredness and self-indulgence?

If these are found in your heart, repent.

Would you be willing today for the Lord to Appropriate unity in ALL your relationships?

Third, your Physical Body

1 Corinthians 11:30 (ESV)
That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

Would you be willing tonight for the Lord to release divine healing in your body?

On the cross, Jesus carried...

... ALL Our SINS

... ALL Our SHAME

... ALL Our SEPARATION

... ALL Our SLAVERY

... ALL Our SORROWS

... ALL Our SICKNESSES

Jesus cleared His throat so ALL HEAVEN AND HELL could hear his next words.

With a LOUD CRY, Jesus said,

“IT IS FINISHED!”