

Life Group Discussion

Now That I Believe - Pt 2

Ice Breaker

Are you more reserved and quiet when walking into a new environment or do you step forward, speak up and take initiative?

Discuss

Read Together: **1 Corinthians 11:17-18, 20-22, 27-29. 2 Corinthians 13:5.**

Background

The Apostle Paul, in writing to the Corinthian church, is revisiting what he taught them when he established the church and spent eighteen months with them. Now away from them and hearing the reports of the spiritual health of the church, he is having to correct them and call out their ungodly behavior. He is particularly frustrated with their handling of Holy Communion.

1. He says to them in **1 Corinthians 11:17**, **'I do not praise you'**. The text goes on to tell us just how they were in error. They were casual about Holy Communion. They were insensitive to other people. They totally missed the point. It appears they were missing a healthy fear of the Lord, too. Paul exclaims his frustration when he says in verse 22, **'WHAT?!'** Has the Lord ever used someone in your life to say, 'what?' to you? If not, can you share about any time in your life that God loved you enough to say, 'what?', through the Holy Spirit? If you're comfortable to do so, explain what happened and what you learned because of it.
2. Jesus left us a memorial in Himself with tangible elements, memorable words, and a regular event for the church family. Talk among yourselves and discuss those three things. Read **Matthew 26:26-28 & 1 Corinthians 11:23-26.**
3. Paul admonishes us to 'examine ourselves', in preparation for Holy Communion. **1 Corinthians 11:27-28.** What is involved in examining ourselves?

"Father in heaven, drive out any contradiction in me. I don't want anything in me to co-mingle with your holiness found in Jesus broken body and shed blood."

We would rather examine ourselves rather than ignore our own sin and mistakes and have the Lord judge us. **1 Corinthians 11:31.**

4. It is apparent that the observance of Holy Communion is a serious matter. But it is also a testimony to the world around us. A reminder and a picture of what took place when Jesus died, was buried, and rose again. Therefore, in the end it represents the greatest victory and gives us the greatest reason to celebrate that our Lord is risen, alive, and loves us on a daily basis. **Matthew 26:29-30.**

Share the joy you have of walking with the Lord. Share the confidence He gives you when you know you are doing as He commands and living in His will. Celebrate the new life you have and encourage one another.

Next Step

As a step in walking more closely to Jesus, have you followed Him in water baptism and participated in Holy Communion observance? If so, welcome to God's family here at Lineage Church. You have experienced the regular practices Jesus asked us to. Have you taken the course, Lineage 101? We welcome you to do so. You can sign up to take the online course at <https://lineage.church/connect>.

Pray

Pray for each other. Share your blessings and your needs. ACTS is a simple prayer outline you may find helpful:

Acknowledge - God's presence

Confess - Our sins

Thanksgiving - Gratitude for His faithfulness

Supplications - Needs of those we love and things we are asking help for