

1 Corinthians 11:17-34 Small Group Guide: Communion and Christian Unity

Key Takeaways:

1. The importance of examining our hearts before taking communion
2. The danger of selfishness and divisions within the church
3. The significance of remembering Christ's sacrifice through communion
4. The need for spiritual maturity in how we treat others in the body of Christ

Discussion Questions:

1. Pastor Jerry mentioned that the Corinthian church had divisions and selfishness during their love feasts and communion. In what ways do you see similar attitudes creeping into modern church gatherings?
2. How can we ensure that we approach communion with the right heart and mindset? What does it mean to examine ourselves before partaking?
3. The sermon emphasized that none of us are worthy of communion on our own merit. How does this truth impact your view of grace and your approach to the Lord's table?
4. Pastor talked about the importance of considering others' needs above our own. In what practical ways can we apply this principle in our church community?
5. How does regularly participating in communion help us remember Christ's sacrifice and look forward to His return?
6. The message mentioned that spiritual maturity involves being able to relate to and fellowship with all believers. What challenges do you face in this area, and how can you grow?

Practical Applications:

1. Before next Sunday's service, spend time in prayer examining your heart and confessing any unresolved sin.
2. Identify one person in the church who is different from you (in age, background, etc.) and make an effort to connect with them this week.
3. Write a short reflection on what Christ's sacrifice means to you personally, and share it with the group next time.
4. Look for opportunities to serve others in the church this week, putting their needs before your own.
5. Commit to regularly participating in communion with a renewed understanding of its significance.

Scripture for Further Study:

- 1 Corinthians 11:17-34
- Philippians 2:3-4
- Romans 12:10
- 1 John 1:9

Prayer Focus:

Pray for unity within your church body, for hearts that are properly prepared for communion, and for a deeper appreciation of Christ's sacrifice among all believers.