

Getting Ready For The New Year

~ Communion ~

The account of the Last Supper is in Matthew 26, Mark 14 & Luke 22.

Paul Teaching On Communion – 1 Corinthians 11:23-28 (NIV)

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night He was betrayed, took bread, 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.” In the same way, after supper He took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes. So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup.

2 Corinthians 13:5 (NIV) “Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves.”

Four Biblical Principles (How Do I Prepare For Communion?)

1. I Examine Myself

1 Corinthians 11:28 (NIV) “A person ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup.”

Acts 4:12 (NIV) “Salvation is found in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”

Questions to ask:

- Have I fully committed my life to Jesus and trusted Him for my salvation?
- Am I faithfully living the Christian life?
- Am I being obedient to the things that I know the Bible says?

2. I Confess My Sins To God

1 John 1:9 (NIV) “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”

Questions to ask:

- What attitudes or habits am I holding on to that I know are dishonoring to Christ?

- Do I have an attitude toward someone or something?
- Am I holding on to a habit that I know isn't good for me?

3. I Recommit My Life To Christ

Romans 12:1 (NIV) “Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.”

Questions to ask:

- What do I know God wants me to do that I have procrastinated on and failed to obey?
- Am I holding on to something that is keeping me from fully following God?
- Am I offering myself as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God?

4. I Restore My Broken Relationships

Matthew 5:23-24 (NIV) “Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.”

Questions to ask:

- Is there any relationship where I need to ask forgiveness?
- Is there any relationship where I need to offer forgiveness?
- Is there something I need to clear up with someone?