

THE ORDINANCE OF COMMUNION

Communion is one of two ordinances (the other being Baptism) that Christ gave to His church to remember and commemorate the death of God's Son on the behalf of lost humanity. Before we partake in this most holy service together, please consider the following:

1. THE PEOPLE OF COMMUNION

- Communion is meant to be partaken only by those individuals that have repented of their sin, placed their faith in Jesus Christ for salvation, and have been baptized into a local body of believers (church).

2. THE PURPOSE OF COMMUNION

- I Corinthians 11:26 says, "For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes." The purpose of taking communion is to remember the suffering and proclaim the death of Jesus on the sinner's behalf. In this time of remembrance, the church is to give thanks, praise, and adoration for the atoning sacrifice of Jesus on the cross.

3. THE PREPARATION FOR COMMUNION

- Before we partake of the bread and cup at the Lord's Table, please take time to prepare your mind and heart by considering two things:
 - I Corinthians 11:27 says, "Whoever, therefore, eats this bread or drinks this cup in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord." The believer is to take this ordinance in a serious manner, realizing that it is a holy time of commemoration.
 - I Corinthians 11:28-29 says, "Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment upon himself." Before taking communion, I encourage you to examine your life and confess and repent of any sin that may be in your life.

NOW, LEADING THE SERVICE:

Prayer: Thank God for the honor of being invited to His table to partake in this ordinance that is meant to proclaim the suffering and death of His Son Jesus.

Read: I Corinthians 11:24

Pray: Give thanks for the body of Jesus that was broken for our sin.

Eat the Bread

Read: I Corinthians 11:25

Pray: Give thanks for the blood of Jesus that was shed for our redemption.

Drink the cup

At this time, you could conclude with a hymn of thanksgiving. The Bible tells us in Mark 14:26, "And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives." Lead your family in a verse and chorus of Amazing Grace or another hymn or spiritual song that praises God for His mercy and grace.