

Agape Feast and Communion

1 Corinthians 11:17-26

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I. Potlucks. 1 Corinthians 11:17-18

Some of the issues Paul heard about in Corinth were _____, divorce, sexual sins, food offered to idols, the exercise of spiritual gifts in the church, and the collection for the poor.

- In the early church they had a special time of fellowship that happened every week, called the _____ (love) Feast which is similar to what we call potlucks today.

Some of the wealthier people were not considering those who were in need when they _____ took too much food. **Philippians 2:4**

II. Divisions and cliques. 1 Corinthians 11:19-22

Along with divisions, certain church _____ were formed as well, which should never happen within a body of believers.

1. The _____ of the Bible as originally written.
2. The belief in the Triune Godhead; there is only One God, revealed in three persons; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
3. The belief in the _____ birth of Jesus as a man (fully God and man); although Jesus came as a baby in Bethlehem; He remained fully God at the same time.
4. The belief that Salvation comes from Jesus _____; by God's grace alone, through faith in Christ alone.
5. The belief Jesus died on the _____, was buried, and bodily rose on the third day.

III. The Lord's Supper. 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

- The first Lord's Supper began the night Jesus was betrayed, as He was sharing a _____ meal with the Disciples.

"The value of the experience depends on the condition of the _____ of those who participate; and this was the problem at Corinth." (Wiersbe)

- When we take communion, we are remembering the supreme sacrifice of Christ and the lengths He was willing to go to save God's _____ and make them children. **Romans 5:10**

IV. Proclaim Jesus. 1 Corinthians 11:26

"Often we have broken bread together around the Lord's Table, and then we have gone out to do just what those disciples did – we have _____ Him." (Redpath)

Small Group Discussion

Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

1. Read **1 Corinthians 11:17-18**. What type of meal was Paul referring to in these verses? What were the issues? Did this type of fellowship enhance or retract from the Church as a whole?
Philippians 2:3-4, 1 Corinthians 10:24, James 2:1-7
2. Read **1 Corinthians 11:19-22** and discuss the dangers of divisions and cliques within the Church. *Is there a time when a division can be a good thing?*
1 John 2:19, Exodus 8:23, 1 Corinthians 12:25, Romans 16:17, Titus 3:10, 1 Corinthians 1:10, Mark 3:24
3. Discuss the historical truths listed in point II. of the sermon note sheet.
4. Read **1 Corinthians 11:23-25**. What are the two New Testament ordinances? What is the difference between a water baptism and a Baptism of the Holy Spirit?
Acts 8:26-38, Acts 1:5, Galatians 3:27, Colossians 2:12
5. What is the meaning of communion? Does the participation of communion grant us favor with God? When did communion begin?
1 Corinthians 11:23-24, Matthew 26:26-29, Romans 5:10, Exodus 12:1-29
6. Discuss the differences between the Old Covenant and the New Covenant Jesus provides.
Jeremiah 31:31-34, Hebrews 8:13, 9:15, 13:20, Titus 3:4-5, Genesis 17:7, Exodus 19:5-9