

March 17, 2025

Unity Through the Lord's Supper

1 Corinthians 11:17-34

Factions developed inside the church. Some followed their favorite teacher. Some held differing views of freedom. Despite divisions, surely, they could come together as one body to participate in the Lord's Supper? Unfortunately, not. The Lord's Supper should solidify their unity in Jesus Christ. Instead, its observance created more factionalism, bringing shame on the church and Jesus Christ.

Additional Verses:

Matthew 25:31-34

John 17:20-23

Acts 2:43-47

Galatians 3:28

Ephesians 4:4-6

James 2:1-7

Outline:

1. The Lord's Supper is a demonstration of our unity in Jesus Christ.

2. Unity of the Lord's Supper is preserved through:

- Recognition

- Discernment

- Self-control

Study Questions:

1. What does the Lord's Supper teach about Jesus' past and future work? Why is the church instructed to observe the Lord's Supper often?

2. What societal issue is creating conflict in the church? Why is this issue destructive to the church?

3. How do divisions in the church undermine Jesus' redemptive work on the cross? How does the Lord's Supper preserve unity?

4. Why is the warning to believers so severe?

5. How does recognition, discernment, and self-control help to maintain unity in the church?

6. How is the Holy Spirit leading you to respond to God today?