Breaking of Bread Seminar, 01.28.23

Breaking of Bread (BoB) is an important meeting of the chapel that solely focuses on Christ and His redemptive work on the cross (1 Cor 11:24-25). This open meeting is set up in such a way that every believer could exercise the priesthood privileges within the God-given boundaries. Men audibly worship the Lord and lead the body to worship by sharing thoughts, choosing an appropriate song, and praying with an emphasis of praising the Lord. Women exercise the privilege of worshiping the Lord in an inaudible and a quiet manner.

Here are a few principles for men to consider and abide by while audibly participating at the BoB meeting.

PREPARE:

1. Confess your sins and set your heart right before the Lord (1 Cor 11:27-29)
2. Come with an attitude of worshipping the Lord
3. Get in early and settle down before the 1st song
4. Do your daily QTs
5. Spend some time on Saturday evening to prepare for Sunday morning

PARTCIPATE, Do's:

1. You have a responsibility to the congregation: lead us in worship
2. Focus on Christ – His person & work
3. Think about what you are going to say
4. Think about why you are going to say it
5. What's your point? Do you have one?
6. Keep it simple; don't confuse the group
7. Allow the Holy Spirit to lead you; avoid being impulsive
8. Practice reverence
9. Prepare in advance – nothing wrong with it!
10. Keep it simple
11. Share from the word
12. Limit your illustrations and life stories
13. Speak up so the entire congregation could hear well
14. Select a hymn that draws out worship
15. Call out songs loudly and clearly. Mention the song #, and title. Repeat it twice
16. Give preference to each other. Consider sharing once a month
17. Watch the clock

Timing, in general:

- 9:35: Pray + Pass the bread (4 mins)
- 9:39: Share a thought + pray (2 mins)
- 9:41: Pass the cup (4 min)
- 9:45: Share a thought + pray (2 mins)
- 9:47: Pass the offering (3 mins)
- 9:50: announcements

18. If you were to call out a song when the offering is passed, choose a shorter song, or select 2 or 3 verses only
19. Wait till the ushers settle down after passing the bread and the cup before you stand up to share

PARTCIPATE, Don'ts:

1. Do not misuse Zoom; attend in-person unless you are sick or traveling
2. Don't preach a sermon
3. Don't feel you have to be profound when you share
4. Don't feel you need to have a devotion + prayer + hymn; leave room for others
5. Don't feel intimidated by someone who has more experience than you
6. Avoid setting patterns for yourself. Share in different ways and at different times during the meeting. Sharing each week can also be a pattern to avoid.
7. Don't pick a song while the emblems are passed; some may want to remember the Lord in quietness during that time
8. Don't feel you have to fill up quiet spaces
9. Don't worry about doing things wrong or saying things wrong

Points to consider when you "open" the BoB:

1. Have "ONE" theme
2. Don't exhort or teach on a topic; that is not the purpose of the meeting. Remember the purpose of the devotional is to draw people's heart to worship the Lord
3. Don't explain why you decided to share from the passage
4. 7 mins MAX; use it wisely - don't go over
5. Limit your illustrations to a bare minimum
6. Try not to choose a long section/passage
7. Leave room for others to expand on your thoughts
8. Be loud; enunciate
9. Share on a regular basis, not just on your assigned date