

The Lord's Supper

September 27, 2020

Read: Matthew 26:26-30

What is The Lord's Supper? Is it the real body and blood of Jesus? Why does the church observe The Lord's Supper? And who should participate?

Wow! So many questions, but before we answer these questions, I have more for you. I'm sure you know the answers to these questions, so I want you to write them down.

When is your birthday?

Do you do anything special on your birthday?

What is your favorite cake?

How many candles did you have on your last birthday cake?

What is the best present you have ever received?

A birthday is a time to remember and to celebrate the day you were born. The candles on your cake represent how old you are. You celebrate your birthday with family and friends and it's your special day. People sing to you and tell you happy birthday and give you presents and much, much more!

The Lord's Supper is also a time to remember, but as Christians we remember the suffering and death of Jesus on the cross. Before Jesus died He had one last meal with His disciples and during that time Jesus took bread and broke it and gave it to His disciples and told them it was His body and to eat it. Jesus also gave His disciples a cup and said it was His blood and to drink it.

So was the bread and wine (juice) the actual body and blood of Jesus? **No!** The bread is a reminder to us that Jesus' body was broken for our sins and the wine reminds us that Jesus' blood was also shed or poured out for our sins. We are told in 1 Corinthians 11:26 that the church is to observe The Lord's Supper until the day that Jesus returns; we are to remember what Jesus did for us when he took our sins upon Himself and died on the cross in our place. We are not told how often to do this, but if you had a birthday every week, although you would love the attention, cake and presents, it wouldn't stay special week after week after week. If we observed The Lord's Supper every week, it would be more like a routine and expected and not recognized for the purpose it was intended for. When we observe The Lord's Supper, we are to remember the sacrifice that Jesus made and the price He paid for all of our sins.

I don't know what your best birthday present is, but I know that God has given everyone the best gift ever. God gave us the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ His Son, also known as

salvation. Jesus died for all of our sins and if you realize that you are a sinner (lying is a sin) and you ask Jesus to forgive you for your sins and to come into your heart, you have the best gift ever, the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Everyone who has accepted the gift of salvation can participate in The Lord's Supper. It is a time for each of us to remember what Jesus did for us, it's personal and private. Jesus suffered and died for my sins because He loves me and cares for me. If you have not received your gift of salvation from God, ask your parents, Pastor May, or a teacher at church to tell you more about it.