

NAME _____

CTK Home Study for Holy Communion

Objective: To prepare for participation in the sacrament of Holy Communion at CTK by developing a biblical understanding of the sacrament. The student will be able to:

- *Understand the biblical background of the Lord's Supper*
 - *Passover (OT)*
 - *New Covenant vs. Old Covenant*
 - *Sacrificial Death and Resurrection of the Lord Jesus*
 - *Words of Institution*
- *Explain the meaning of the word sacrament;*
- *Identify different Christian beliefs about this sacrament;*
- *Have faith in Jesus' words: "This is my body . . . This is the New Covenant in my blood for the forgiveness of your sins."*
- *Be able to examine themselves in order to prepare to receive the Lord's Supper.*

1. Read Romans 9:5 and Hebrews 13:8.

Which one of the following statements is true of Jesus Christ?

- a. He was a great teacher with extraordinary spiritual powers but he was not God.
- b. He is 100% human and 100% God at the same time.
- c. He had a human body but his mind was God.
- d. He is God and only appeared to have a body, but the body wasn't real.
- e. He is human while on earth and God while in heaven.

2. Read Luke 22:7 (*mark your place, we'll come back to this passage*)

- a. What Jewish religious festival did Jesus want to celebrate with his disciples? (v. 7)

- b. What special kind of bread would be eaten for seven days during this religious celebration? (v. 7)

3. Read Exodus 12:1-20

- a. What indicates that this event was a significant, new starting point in the community of the Israelites? (vv. 2, 14, 17)

5. Read Deuteronomy 6:12 and 6:20-23.

According to these verses, what were the Jewish people (like Jesus and his disciples) supposed to remember when they celebrated their holidays like Passover?

6. Read 1 Corinthians 5:7-8.

a. Who is identified as the "Passover lamb"? (v. 7)

b. What does the leaven, or yeast, represent? (v. 8)

c. Have you ever experienced anyone being mean for no reason--malicious, and deceitful? If so, how did it make you feel?

d. What does the unleavened bread represent? (v. 8)

7. Read James 1:21.

a. Why is this the right attitude to have when taking Holy Communion (even though Holy Communion is not specifically mentioned here)?

8. Read John 8:34-36.

a. What kind of slavery is Jesus concerned about?

b. Who is it that can set a person free from this kind of slavery?

9. Read Romans 7:21-25

- a. Have you ever wanted to do the right thing but ended up doing the wrong thing instead?

- b. If so, then what does that make you?

10. Read Romans 8:1-5.

- a. How does God regard or treat someone who is “in Christ Jesus (NIV)” or “belongs to Christ Jesus (NLT)”

- b. How did God’s Son end sin’s control over us? (v. 3)

- c. What was God’s purpose for making us free from sin through Christ Jesus? (v. 4)

- d. Explain as best you can why nobody can be free from sin who doesn’t *want* to be free (v.5)?

11. Write a prayer you could say before taking Holy Communion that would express your desire to be free from the control of sin and express confidence that Christ Jesus can keep you free:

12. Read Jeremiah 31:31-34.

- a. What is the connection between this passage and the Words of Institution? (see Question 3.c&d, above)

- b. What made the first covenant no longer valid, which God had made when he led their forefathers out of Egypt (v. 32; for more information, see Psalm 78)?

- c. What are three things the LORD promises in the New Covenant?

[1] _____

[2] _____

[3] _____

13. Read Hebrews 9:15-27 & 10:1-4.

Based on this passage, complete this chart (Choose from the following words & phrases: *Cleansing from Sin, Animals, Once and for All, Moses, Reminder of Sins, Christ (2x), Repeatedly*):

	Old/First Covenant	New Covenant
Who instituted it?		
What is sacrificed?		
Is the sacrifice repeated?		
What does it offer?		

14. Read John 6:47-58.

- a. What words does Jesus use to describe himself here? (Hint, v. 48: "I am the . . .")

- b. Two different times in this passage Jesus tells about having eternal life: verses 47 and 54. Write down the description of who has eternal life:

(v. 47): Whoever _____

(v. 54): Whoever _____

- c. Are you sure you have eternal life?

Why?

15. Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-32.

- a. (v. 24-26) When Jesus said, “*Do this* in remembrance of me,” what did he mean that we should do?

- b. (v. 26) Until when should the church “*Do this* in remembrance . . .”?

- c. Complete the following statements based on your own thoughts:

Remembering the Lord’s death is sad because . . .

Remembering the Lord’s death is joyful because . . .

d. vv. 27-29 Roman Catholic churches teach “transubstantiation” of the bread and wine. This means that after the priest consecrates the bread and wine, even though the bread still looks like bread, its inner substance has been changed so that it is no longer bread but *only* the body of the Lord, and likewise the wine’s inner substance is *only* the blood of the Lord and no longer wine. What words in this passage show that the Bible teaches that the bread remains bread, and likewise the wine?

e. vv. 27- 29 Many Baptist and non-denominational churches in America take the Bible literally except when the Lord says he is giving us his body and blood to eat and drink in Holy Communion. Instead, they eat bread and grape juice as symbols to help them remember how Jesus died on the cross and rose again. What words in this passage show that the Bible actually teaches that the body and blood of the Lord are present in this meal?

f. To summarize, what is consumed during Holy Communion? (check all that apply)

- bread wine the Lord’s body the Lord’s blood

16. Read 1 Corinthians 15:42-49.

a. In this passage there are contrasts between the “natural body” and the “spiritual body.” Complete the following chart by writing some of the contrasting words or phrases under the appropriate heading, and which verse you found them in:

Natural Body	Spiritual Body	Verse

b. Which kind of body do you think the Lord offers in the Lord's Supper? Why?

17. Go back to 1 Corinthians 11: 27-29

What two actions are required of a person taking Holy Communion in order to avoid sinning against the body and blood of the Lord?

[1] (v. 28) _____

[2] (v. 29) _____

18. Read 2 Corinthians 13:5.

Explain in your own words what it means to examine yourself:

19. Read Matthew 6:14-15.

Why would it be important to forgive persons who hurt or harmed you before receiving Holy Communion?

20. Read Philippians 3:20-21.

What will happen to our bodies when the Lord Jesus comes again?

21. Read 2 Corinthians 5:10.

How will your life be different if you regularly remember that when Jesus comes back again he will evaluate all of our actions and motives in order to reward those who have loved God and loved others because they believed in him?

22. The word *sacrament* has been used in the Lutheran Church to describe Holy Communion and Baptism. It comes from a Latin word which means “oath” or “pledge,” and the pledge was often associated with some object.

Read Matthew 26:28.

a. Who makes the pledge in Holy Communion?

b. What is pledged?

c. What visible objects are associated with God’s pledge or promise in Holy Communion?

23. Read Acts 2:38-39

a. What is pledged or promised in Baptism? (v. 38)

[1] _____

[2] _____

b. Who is the promise for? (v. 39)

c. What is required of those who receive the promise? (v. 38)

d. What visible object is associated with God’s promise in Baptism? (if help is needed see Acts 8:36.)

24. Write the dictionary definition of the word “sacrament”:

25. Read Ephesians 2:8-10.

How, or by what, are we saved? (v. 8)

For what purpose are we created anew in Christ Jesus? (v. 10)

26. Using your own words explain what it means to “repent and believe the Good News (Mark 1:15):”

27. The word *Eucharist* means “thanksgiving.” It is used to refer to Holy Communion because of the attitude and prayers of thanksgiving with which it is received. In your own words, write a short prayer of thanks that you could use when you receive Holy Communion:

28. Check all the things below that are implied in the name, *Holy Communion*. Leave unchecked any things that are not implied in the name Holy Communion.

- It is holy because God is holy
- It is only a feeling and it won't last very long
- It is a means God uses to communicate forgiveness to us
- It separates us from God because he is holy and we are not
- It unites us to God's holy character and purposes

29. Finally, on a separate sheet write a summary of the part of Luther's Small Catechism which states the classic Lutheran teaching about the Lord's Supper (see next page).

Luther's Small Catechism, Part Five

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

1.

What is Holy Communion?

Holy Communion is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ given with bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us to eat and drink.

Where do the Scriptures say this?

Matthew, Mark, Luke, and Paul say: Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you; this do in remembrance of Me."

After the same manner also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins; this do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

2.

What benefits do we receive from this sacrament?

The benefits of this sacrament are pointed out by the words, *given and shed for you for the remission of sins*. These words assure us that in the sacrament we receive forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

3.

How can eating and drinking do all this?

It is not eating and drinking that does this, but the words, *given and shed for you for the remission of sins*. These words, along with eating and drinking, are the main thing in the sacrament. And whoever believes these words has exactly what they say, forgiveness of sins.

4.

When is a person rightly prepared to receive this sacrament?

Fasting and other outward preparations serve a good purpose. However, that person is well prepared and worthy who believes these words, *given and shed for you for the remission of sins*. But anyone who does not believe these words, or doubts them, is neither prepared nor worthy, for the words *for you* require simply a believing heart.