

**GETTING STARTED:**

- 1) Tell about an examination that was helpful in your own life or a family member or friend?
- 2) If you have an “open-book exam,” knowing YOU will perform the evaluation, how does your anxiety level and your preparation change?

**MESSAGE BIG IDEA:      Table Manners: Self-Examination****MAIN SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 11:17-24; Matthew 26:20-25; Psalms 139:23-24; Matthew 5:23-24****DISCUSSION**

- 1) What is meant by “unworthy manner”, according to the scripture passage and message this week? What would constitute taking communion in an “unworthy manner?”
- 2) In what ways do you agree or disagree that the Corinthians were “profaning or desecrating” communion?
- 3) What is the difference referred to in I Cor. 11:31 & 32 between God’s judgment and our own judgment of our sins?
- 4) In Matthew 5:23-28, why did Jesus want reconciliation first? How does this relate to what Paul said in 1 Corinthians? If we need to repair broken relationships before taking communion, does that mean we may never qualify?
- 5) When Jesus taught his followers to pray, “...forgive us our trespasses as we forgive....” Etc. How could this have some bearing or not in taking communion

**DIG DEEPER**

- 1) What are the deeper problems being referred to in I Cor. 11:30 when the scripture says many have become weak or ill, even died, by lack of self-examination before taking communion? Is God being too harsh? (Read Hebrews 12:7-11)
- 2) According to I Peter 4: 12-17, how are we identifying ourselves with Christ through the taking of communion?
- 3) When you do “self-Examination” before & during communion, are you able to name specific problem areas?

**BRING IT HOME**

- 1) What is the ‘take-away’ from the table of God after communion? How should it affect us?
- 2) How should self-examination before affect the way we live our lives, including the effect we have on others?

**ASK FOR GOD’S HELP**

- 1) How can we make sure that we don’t take communion lightly? How can we help you toward that end?
- 2) Along with prayer, who can you go to for wise counsel regarding habitual sin?