

Communion

1/29/2018

I was asked by a young boy yesterday, “What is communion?” That is a great question. What is the big deal about communion? It seems like just a bunch of people drinking some juice or wine, and eating some bread. What is communion and why do we celebrate it?

Communion is what I call a solemn celebration. It is solemn because it is a remembrance of what Jesus did for us on the cross. The purchase of our salvation was extremely costly for God and for Christ. I think we can forget that truth, or get used to it. Communion is a reminder that our salvation is based on the ultimate sacrifice of God’s Son, Jesus the Christ. Jesus said in [Luke 22:19-20](#) as He served the bread and wine at what we call “the last supper”, “This is my body which is given for you, and this cup is the new covenant in my blood.” Our salvation cost Jesus His life. That is how serious our sin problem was. Communion is not about the bread and wine. It’s about the body and blood of Jesus, the Christ.

Communion is about remembering what Jesus did, but also who He is. Jesus is the savior because of His death, but His death only makes Him the savior because He is the Lord. Communion is not just about remembering His death. It is also about remembering what He said about following Him. ([Luke 9:23](#)) Communion is about remembering Christ’s death, and remembering our deaths. Following Jesus means we give up our lives to follow Him and allow Him to live His life in and through us. This is a remembrance of the gospel. Jesus was broken so that we might be made whole. He died so that we might be raised to new life.

As often as we remember Jesus, we should celebrate Jesus. Communion is important because it’s a command to remember, and it is a serious command. ([1 Corinthians 11:23-32](#)) We are to consistently remember the reality and the cost of the gospel. Communion causes us to do just that.

It also causes us to remember that the gospel is the same for all of us. None of us are more deserving nor less deserving than anyone else. We are all in this body together. We all need each other. We all belong to each other. We are all members of each other. That is perhaps the primary message of the book of Ephesians.

I trust that communion allows us to do exactly what Jesus asked us to do with it, remember Him.

I’m looking forward to a great discussion with a 9 year old about what communion is!

Questions to consider:

1. What is the significance of communion in your life? How important or necessary is it for your ongoing spiritual health?
2. How can we keep communion from getting old or mundane?
3. Try writing a note to Jesus about what His death means to you and why. It might be a new way of remembering how much it means.