

“Greatness:
Just Live It”

“Greatness Through Remembrance” Core 35

“Jesus said to the., ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you.’”

John 6:53

A. Communion is a remembrance of the past in an unfolding drama or photo album...

1. Passover was the most sacred feast that was celebrated. It was the Last Supper of the Old Testament. The Passover looked back to the Exodus.

“This is a day to remember. Each year, from generation to generation, you must celebrate it as a special festival to the LORD. This is a law for all time.” Exodus 12:14

2. It focused on the Passover lamb, the unleavened bread, and the wine.

“The bread you eat must be made without yeast... Go, pick out a lamb or young goat for each of your families, and slaughter the Passover animal.” Exodus 12:18a, 21b

3. There were four cups in Jewish tradition. These cups stand for the four “*I wills*” in Exodus 6:6-7.
 - a. First Cup of Sanctification: “*I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.*” It was a cup of Thanksgiving and referred to the redemption.
 - b. Second Cup of Judgment or Deliverance: “*I will deliver you from slavery to them.*”
 - c. Third Cup of Redemption: “*I will redeem you with an outstretched arm.*”
 - d. Fourth Cup of Praise of Restoration: “*I will take you to be My people, and I will be your God.*”

“Then your children will ask, ‘What does this ceremony mean?’ And you will reply, ‘It is the Passover sacrifice to the LORD, for He passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt. And though He struck the Egyptians, He spared our families.’” Exodus 12:26

B. Communion is a remembrance to the present and to be experienced by all of us...

1. Jesus fulfilled the Passover meal by becoming the spotless Lamb, the bread, and the wine. The Last Supper looked back to the cross.

“Jesus replied, ‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to Me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in Me will never be thirsty.’” John 6:35

“After supper He took another cup of wine and said, ‘This cup is the new covenant between God and His people—an agreement confirmed with My blood, which is poured out as a sacrifice for you.’” Luke 22:20

“The next day John saw Jesus coming toward Him and said, ‘Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’” John 1:29

2. Communion is a time to examine your relationship with Christ.

“Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup. For those who eat and drink without discerning the body of Christ eat and drink judgment on themselves.” 1 Corinthians 11:28-29

“Examine yourselves to see if your faith is genuine. Test yourselves. Surely you know that Jesus Christ is among you; if not, you have failed the test of genuine faith.” 2 Corinthians 13:5

3. Communion is a shared experience with the body of Christ.

“So then, my brothers and sisters, when you gather to eat, you should all eat together. Anyone who is hungry should eat something at home, so that when you meet together it may not result in judgment.” 1 Corinthians 11:33-34

4. Communion looks ahead to the future!

“For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.” 1 Corinthians 11:26

“For I tell you now that I won’t eat this meal again until its meaning is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God.” Luke 22:16

C. Communion is a remembrance and anticipation for the future...

1. The Marriage Supper of the Lamb is our future meal together in the very presence of Jesus.

“Then I heard again what sounded like the shout of a vast crowd or the roar of mighty ocean waves or the crash of loud thunder: ‘Praise the LORD! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns. Let us be glad and rejoice, and let us give honor to Him. For the time has come for the wedding feast of the Lamb, and His bride has prepared herself. She has been given the finest of pure white linen to wear.’ For the fine linen represents the good deeds of God’s holy people. And the angel said to me, ‘Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding feast of the Lamb.’ And He added, ‘These are true words that come from God.’” Revelations 19:6-9

2. Jesus is the Lamb and fulfilled the Scriptures!

“And they sang a new song with these words: ‘You are worthy to take the scroll and break its seals and open it.

For You were slaughtered, and Your blood has ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. And they sang in a mighty chorus:

‘Worthy is the Lamb who was slaughtered—to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.’” Revelation 5:9,12

“And all the people who belong to this world worshiped the beast. They are the ones whose names were not written in the Book of Life that belongs to the Lamb who was slaughtered before the world was made.

He was oppressed and treated harshly, yet He never said a word.” Revelation 13:8

“He was led like a lamb to the slaughter. And as a sheep is silent before the shearers, He did not open His mouth.” Isaiah 53:7

3. And the very presence of God will be with us for eternity!

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, ‘Look, God’s home is now among His people! He will live with them, and they will be His people. God Himself will be with them.’” Revelation 22:1-3

D. Communion is...

“Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?”

1 Corinthians 10:16

1. Communion is a time of personal connection to God.
2. Communion is a time of shared experiences with the body of Christ.
3. Communion is a time of personal introspection.
4. Communion is a time of remembrance.
5. Communion is a time of gratitude.
6. Communion is a time of celebration.