

Sermon Based Study

SERMON SERIES: This is FOR everyONE. Communion.

April 25-28

<u>Sermon Key Points</u>: 1-Communion is meant to include. 2-Communion is FOR everyONE. (Communion is an opportunity: to invite, to remember, to proclaim) 3-Communion is about community.

Series Memory Verse

"FOR EveryONE who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." **Romans 10:13**

Sermon Scripture References I Corinthians 11:17-34

Jesus ate with people. Jesus ate with all kinds of people. He ate with the outcast, the sinner, and the "saint." Problems often arose when he brought all these people together. Some assumed they were better than others and did not like when Jesus brought the fringe to their festivities. We might struggle with this as well. There are some groups of people that we are more accustomed to, we feel like we have more in common, or we share similar backgrounds, socio-economic status, or interests. Communion, however, is meant to include. In I Corinthians 11, Paul dealt with a group of people who were excluding and/or overlooking others from the communion meal. They were more focused on themselves than on the community that the Lord's Supper was meant to bring. He warned them that this was detrimental not only to their spiritual walk but also their physical health.

Communion is for everyOne. It is an opportunity to invite people into fellowship with Jesus and one another. It is an opportunity to remember that Jesus is Savior, he is Lord. Communion is an opportunity to proclaim. In it, we declare that we trust in Jesus and the sufficiency of his death for our sins.

Communion is about community. We all need Jesus. We all require grace. In communion together, we acknowledge our mutual dependance on the love and provision of Jesus. We are not as different as it seems; it is a beautiful meal celebrating our oneness.

Personal Reflection:

- 1. What is the best meal you have had with a group of people? What made it great?
- 2. What causes us to exclude people from meals, meetings, social gatherings, etc.?
- 3. In what areas of our faith might we be guilty of gorging ourselves while others are going hungry?
- 4. Why is consideration of the poor essential to communion together?
- 5. What is communion? In what ways does communion Invite? Remember? Proclaim?
- 6. In what ways does not considering the body (all follower of Jesus) in communion bring harm upon oneself?
- 7. In what ways does good spiritual correction help us grow? Why do we often not like it?