

The Lord's Supper: Its Observance

- Andy Kizer -

At least four different religious ideas are connected with our observance of the Lord's Supper. All of these have very deep significance.

First, the communion is always associated with prayer. When He set up this act of worship, Jesus, our example, gave thanks for each of the elements of the communion service. The serious prayers uttered when we commune with the Lord involve thanksgiving and petition.

The second important element to remember in the communion service is the element of fellowship. In this practice there is fellowship with each other as members of God's chosen family, fellowship with God, the Father, and fellowship with our Lord Jesus Christ. Matthew 26:29 suggests that since the establishment of the kingdom on the day of Pentecost, our Lord has been meeting with His disciples. In some way, He is present when we all come together to participate in the communion.

The third element of the Lord's Supper is to be found in the fact that it is a memorial. Paul speaks of this in 1 Corinthians 11. This institution is the perpetual reminder that we are saved by the blood of Christ. When we partake of this supper we remember that Jesus died on the cross. We remember that on that cross He shed His blood for us, for the remission of our sins. God wants us to keep that memorial alive.

Finally, the communion service is a declaration. When we partake, as Paul states in 1 Corinthians 11, we declare our faith that Jesus will come again. The Lord's Supper is observed in a spirit of hope with an attitude of optimism on the first day of every week. "For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come" (1 Corinthians 11:26).

- Beacon, Bellview Church of Christ, Pensacola, FL -

What's On Your Mind?

Alan Smith

One night a wife found her husband standing over their baby's crib. Silently she watched him. As he stood looking down at the sleeping infant, she saw on his face a mixture of emotions: disbelief, doubt, amazement, enchantment, skepticism.

Touched by this unusual display and the deep emotions aroused, with eyes glistening, she slipped her arm around her husband. "A penny for your thoughts," she said.

"It's amazing!" he replied, "I just can't see how anybody can make a crib like that for only \$48.50."

Sometimes our thoughts are not as grand as they might be. We partake of the Lord's Supper and ought to have our thoughts centered on the sacrifice of our Savior. Instead, we think about what we're going to eat for dinner. We see a spectacular sunset and ought to be led to reflect on the glory and grandeur of God the Creator. Instead, we wonder who's winning the ball game.

You get the idea. As difficult as it is to keep our lives and our tongues under control, it seems so much more difficult to bring our "every thought into captivity" (2 Corinthians 10:5). If we're not careful, our thoughts tend to wander into forbidden territory. Allow these words of Paul to call us back: "Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy — meditate on these things." (Philippians 4:8).

- The Encourager, Southside Church of Christ, Killeen, TX -

Christ is not valued at all unless He is valued above all.

News & Notes

SYMPATHY: To Docie Moore & family at the recent passing of Docie's uncle, Tim Stiles. God bless the family.

NEW ADDRESS: Daniel & Cindy Mehlmauer, 1108 7th Ave., Beaver Falls, PA 15010. Phone: (412) 972-0663.

NEW CONVERT CLASS: Each Sunday a.m. Bible Class in Room 406.

GOSPEL MEETINGS:

St. Clair Ave., ELO.....Sept. 9-12 (7:00 p.m., Mon.-Wed.)Steve Stevens

CHESTER.....Sept. 23-27 (Mon. - Thur., 7:00 p.m.)Tim Hatfield

CARE & SHARE BEARS: Each Tuesday, 9:00 a.m. All ladies invited.

MEN'S ENRICHMENT CLASS: Beginning this Tuesday, Sept. 11th, 7:00 p.m. for 1 hour (and each Tuesday thereafter). Men, come and study together with your brothers.

BIBLE STUDY DISMISSED HERE: To go en masse this Wednesday, Sept. 12th, 7:00 p.m. to support the St. Clair Avenue, ELO Gospel Meeting.

FELLOWSHIP DINNER & EARLY SERVICE: Sunday Sept. 23rd at about noon at the Fellowship Building followed by our early afternoon worship service at 2:00 p.m. at the church building.

LADIES INSPIRATION DAY: Saturday, Sept. 29th at Southern Hills Church of Christ. Registration & mini breakfast, 9:00-10:00 a.m. Speakers: Danielle Burch, Latisha Brown, and Karen Taylor. Lunch provided.

MEMBER VISITS: Elders and Minister visits with members can be scheduled in your home or to meet here at the building by signing the sheet on the desk, or arrange an appointment by talking to Rico.

PANTRY: Macaroni & cheese.

TO HAVE SURGERY: Jenny Rhodes is scheduled for knee surgery, Wednesday, Oct. 17th at Sewickley Hospital.

SICK & SHUT-IN: *Weirton Medical Center:* Ernie Robinson. *At Home:* Pat Allison, Shirley Beagle, Charlie Delong, Bill & Carol Stillwell, Russell Martin, Blondenia Orr, Doris Dunham, Alex Harless. **FOX NURSING HOME:** Mary Jane Bowers (Room 19). **CROSSROADS:** Sarah Miller. **AUBURN NURSING HOME, SALEM, OH:** Jim Mick. **IN FLORIDA:** Ilene Rayl.

Thinking

Our Thinking

His Thinking

"It's impossible." -----	"All things are possible" Luke 18:27.
"I'm too tired." -----	"I will give you rest" Matt. 11:28-30.
"Nobody really loves me." -----	"I love you" John 3:16.
"Nobody really cares for me." -----	"I care for you" 1 Peter 5:7.
"I can't go on." -----	"My grace is sufficient" 2 Cor. 12:9.
"I can't figure things out." -----	"I will direct your steps" Prov. 3:6
"I can't do it." -----	"You can do all things" Phil. 4:13.
"I'm not worth it" -----	"I am able" 2 Cor. 9:8.
"It's not worth it" -----	"It will be worth it" Rom. 8:28.
"I can't forgive myself." -----	"I forgive you" Ps. 103:12; 1 Jn. 1:9.