



Our Lent Study is based around 5 Aspects of Communion; also known as The Lord's Supper, The Eucharist, and the sharing of Bread and Wine.

The memorial we know as communion was instigated in the Passover meal, just before Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.

Please try to consider the question under the title, and then read the scriptures before your small group meeting.

If you are not in a group please see Me, Nigel, Andy Eames, or Judith Mellor about joining a group for Lent.

Consider joining us on Maundy Thursday for a celebration of the last supper.

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1. Week 1– Community

Have you eaten bread and wine in remembrance of Jesus?
Who did you first do this with? What was the experience like?

a. Readings

- i. 1 Corinthians 10:14-22
- ii. Matthew 26:17-30
- iii. John 2:13-25 & 6:1-14
- iv. Luke 22:7-13
- v. Exodus 12:1-13

b. Questions

- i. Over the weeks we are looking at 5 parts of the celebration of the Lord's Supper. Community, Commemoration, Covenant, Celebration and Commitment. Which of these is the most important to you in your life?
- ii. What does sharing the Peace mean to you? Why do we do this when we share bread and wine? What does it mean in the scriptures?
- iii. The early church shared lives as well as meals together. What might the barriers of this be today?
- iv. We are told to be close to our Brothers and Sisters in Christ. What does this mean? What do we miss when we don't do it?
- v. Can you think of a time when you have resolved a difference with someone that has brought you closer together?

2. Week 2 – Commemoration (memorial)

There are many significant events in our lives. When you forgot a significant event what were the consequences?

a. Readings

- i. Exodus 12:14-28
- ii. Mark 14:12-16
- iii. John 13:1-17
- iv. Matthew 20:17-28
- v. 1 Peter 5:1-11

b. Questions

- i. Has Jesus or the Holy Spirit ever prompted you to do something specific?
- ii. Thinking of different commemorative acts you have in your Family, Church, and wider Community What value do they have for you?
- iii. Discuss how you can make space in a busy day to remember all that God is doing and has done for you.
- iv. What comes into your mind when you think of the presence of God. How is it known to you?
- v. Are commemorative actions more or less important today than in a less literate culture?

3. Week 3 – Covenant (contract or treaty)

What promises have you made that really matter?

a. Readings

- i. John 13:18-30
- ii. 1 Timothy 6:3-19
- iii. Psalm 41
- iv. Exodus 13:1-10
- v. Exodus 6:1-13
- vi. Jeremiah 31:27-40

b. Questions

- i. If the old covenant (contract or treaty) was going to be superseded, why not bring in the new one in the first place?
- ii. What do we learn from the old covenant that makes it valuable in our appreciation of the new?
- iii. Why do you think Jeremiah's prophecy (Jer 31:27-40) of the new covenant did not mention blood?
- iv. Why do you think Jesus based the communion celebration in the Passover meal?

4. Week 4 Celebration (or party)

Think about your most memorable celebration meal. What did you have to eat? What made it different from regular meals?

a. Readings

- i. Exodus 15:1-19
- ii. Psalm 136
- iii. John 12:20-36
- iv. Matthew 16:21-28
- v. Matthew 26:26-30
- vi. John 6:53-59

b. Questions

- i. Why do communion services, Eucharistic services, celebrations of the Lord's supper, Celebrations with Bread & Wine sometimes seem sombre?
- ii. What does it mean to feed on Christ (John 6:57)
- iii. How do we celebrate good news as a church? How does this impact our wider community.
- iv. Is it possible to truly celebrate with sincere thankfulness without it being exuberant?
- v. How can we celebrate better?

5. Week 5 – Commitment

Make a list of all of your social, personal and family commitments. Which is your favourite? What are the ones you struggle with?

a. Readings

- i. Isaiah 53:1-12
- ii. Hebrews 9:11-28
- iii. Galatians 6:1-15
- iv. Galatians 2:15-21
- v. Revelation 22:7-21

b. Questions

- i. Why is it sometimes hard to commit? What do you need to encourage your commitment?
- ii. Does eating a meal with someone today have the same significance it would have had when Jesus lived?
- iii. Is your commitment to Jesus mentioned when you attend a communion service? If so How? What does this mean to you?
- iv. How can we encourage you to remember what Jesus the Messiah has done for you at every meal you eat with someone else?