

Life Group Discussion Questions

Sermon Series: Why Do We Do That?

Sermon Title: Celebrate Communion

Sermon Date: 10-6-19

THE GOSPEL GAIN:

We celebrate the Lord's Supper to remember His death and anticipate His return together.

The purpose of our study on Communion is to explain the origin and purpose of the Lord's Supper and to understand why we celebrate it the way we do at Oakwood. The hope is that it serves to encourage our faith family to continue celebrating Communion *together* as we look back and remember Christ's death and look forward in anticipation of the glorious things to come.

Gathering Together (Icebreaker)

Share with your Life Group the experience of celebrating Communion for the first time:

- When and where did this take place?
- What was most memorable about this first experience for you?
- What was your understanding of what you were doing at that time?
- How has your view of what the Lord's Supper is and means developed and changed over time?

Growing Together (Truth/Equipping)

Read: ***Exodus 12:21-28***

- This is a strange passage in many ways, isn't it? How do our modern minds and cultured sensibilities shape how we view this historic gruesome, bloody and grotesque event?
- What can we learn from the command given in v26-27 about the importance of instructing our children to remember God's faithfulness in the past?
- Why does us "remembering" seem so important to God? What happens when we forget?

Read: ***Exodus 12:29-32***

- What questions arise for you as you reflect on the Passover?
- What can we discern about our Lord from this event? About how He views the debt of sin? About why He warns His people?
- What can we know about God considering He made provisions to spare His people?

Read: **Isaiah 53:3-11**

Isaiah writes this prophecy about Jesus over 700 years before the crucifixion and it contains undeniable Gospel symbolism.

- List the ways that Jesus functions like the sacrificial lamb at the Passover:
- Discuss which of these many truths is most impactful to you and why.

Read: **1 Corinthians 11:17-33**

- What can we learn from this first century church on how NOT to celebrate communion?
- What are the dangers of taking communion “in an unworthy manner” (v27-32)?
- What does it mean to “proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes” (v26)?
- How is celebrating communion a way that believers can display the Gospel?

Read: **Revelation 5:1-14**

- What does this spectacular vision of the slain Lamb of God conjure up in your thoughts and emotions? What emotions did the John (the author of Revelation) experience?
- What words and attributes are ascribed to the risen and reigning King Jesus in this scene?
- What does this passage teach us about how we ought to worship the Lamb of God?

Getting Real with One Another (Accessibility)

- What are some misconceptions that you’ve held about what communion is and means?
- When you partake of communion, what do you tend to think about or contemplate?
- How can we practically balance remembering what Jesus has done in the past with the anticipation of what He will do in the future?
- How can anticipating Christ’s glorious reign in the future compel your soul to worship Him in the present?
- What is one practical take away from this study on the Lord’s Supper that will impact the way you celebrate communion going forward?

Group Prayer Time (Supplication)

- Share some prayer requests with one another and then pray for one another.
- Pray that our church would strive to develop a passion for God and compassion for people.
- Pray that our faith family will continue celebrating Communion *together* as we look back and remember Christ’s death and look forward in anticipation of the glorious things to come.