

Discussion Starter: What did your first introduction to “communion” or “the Lord’s Supper” look like? How have you practiced it in the past (at any point) that looks different than the way SOBC does it (*wafer pieces vs. common loaf of bread, wine vs. juice, weekly vs. quarterly vs. monthly, in pews vs. go up front, open to visitors vs. church members only, etc.*)?

## Prayer

### Key Passage: 1 Corinthians 11:23-29

How would you summarize/explain the meaning of the Lord’s Supper to someone who has never been exposed to it before? Especially in light of **John 6:53-61** and/or the new American pop culture obsession with vampires, what aspects would be challenging for an outsider to understand or appreciate?

Why is the Lord’s Supper a solemn occasion of remembering? What aspects of the event point/remind you in this direction?

Why is the Lord’s Supper an important occasion of celebration? What aspects of the event point/remind you in this direction?

Drawing upon our discussion so far and upon your past experiences with the Lord’s Supper, how should the balance between solemnity and celebration look ideally? Where do most Christians and/or churches that you have seen fall short of this balancing act?

How have you heard the warnings of verses 27-28 explained in the past? How have you personally applied these verses? Be careful of the trap of believing that you have confessed all/enough sin to be “worthy” – do you see a problem with this common mentality (*we sin more than we know, we are never worthy because our best is still mixed with sin, etc.*)? In light of verses 18-22 and 33-34, what do you think Paul has in mind when he discusses taking the Lord’s Supper in an unworthy manner (*mistreating other members of the church*)?

When should people NOT be allowed to participate in the Lord’s Supper? Why? (*The theme/pattern to your answers should be something along the lines of “not functioning within the body of Christ” – due to division or not actually being part of the body at all – or something in that ballpark.*) How does this corporate/group dynamic differ from the way that most Christians normally focus on the Lord’s Supper?

Based upon our discussion tonight, what primary thing will you contemplate, understand, or emphasize differently during the next time you celebrate the Lord’s Supper?