

THE ESSENTIALS OF COMMUNION

TOWARDS A DEFINITION

1. The Action of communion
2. The Elements of communion
3. The Word “communion”

THE ACTION OF COMMUNION

The Lord's supper:
Matt 26:17-30
Mark 14:12-26
Luke 22:7-23
1 Cor 11:17-34

THE ELEMENTS OF COMMUNION

1. Bread
unleavened bread
2. Wine/juice

THE ELEMENTS OF COMMUNION

- no particular instructions regarding type of elements
- not about the “letter” of the law but the heart of the participant

THE WORD “COMMUNION”

- The sharing or exchanging of intimate thoughts and feelings, especially when the exchange is on a mental or spiritual level.
- Unity, empathy, closeness, togetherness
- Connectedness and community

CONNECTEDNESS AND COMMUNITY

We are part of the same body of Christ

1 Cor 12:12-13

Gal 3:26-29

Eph 4:4-6

CONNECTEDNESS AND COMMUNITY

➤ Communion is an outward symbol of the inward reality

➤ There is a relationship with God through Christ

➤ There is a right relationship with Christ and others

➤ 1 Cor 11:23-27

CONNECTEDNESS AND COMMUNITY

➤ Can I be in a wrong relationship with Christ and others?

➤ 1 Cor 11:17-27

CONNECTEDNESS AND COMMUNITY

- How can I ensure that I am in a right relationship with Christ and others?
 - I Cor 11:23-34

RECOGNIZING COMMUNITY AND CONNECTEDNESS – UNITY IN THE BODY

- Eph 4:3 – Keeping the unity of the Spirit
- Forgiveness

FORGIVENESS

- There is no such thing as forgive and forget
 - It is always forgive and choose not to go back to it again or bring it up again
- A choice, not a feeling
- Absorbing the hurt without hurting back

FORGIVENESS

- An act of grace
- Trusting God for His vengeance and justice to take place in His timing
- Obedience to God
 - Matt 5:12;14-15
 - Matt 18:21-35

FORGIVENESS

- Essential for us to be in a right relationship with God
- For our own heart, for us, not the other person
- Forgiveness does not require or demand an apology – that is control, not forgiveness

FORGIVENESS

- Forgiveness is overcoming evil
 - Romans 12:17-21
- Forgiveness is not restoration or trust
 - Forgiveness makes me right before God, restoration and trust makes me right before people

COMMUNION

- Are you right before God?
- Have you received His forgiveness for your sins?
- Have you extended His forgiveness for the sins of others against you?
