

Sermon Based Discussion

Sermon Title: Union and Communion

Sermon Text: *Matt. 28:18-20, 1 Cor.11:23-34*

OPENING QUESTION

1. What ceremonies have you observed or participated in that has been very meaningful for you. It could be a wedding, citizenship swearing in, graduation, funeral, or baptism.
2. What ceremonies have you observed or participated in that has been not very meaningful or even boring?

INTO THE BIBLE

1. In Matthew 28:18-20, the only command in the Greek is "make disciples". The other verbs forms are participles modifying the one command. Why is the command and the participles important for us to take seriously.
2. Look at practice of the church Acts 2:41:8:12; 8:36-38; 9:18; 10:47, 48; 16:14-15, 33; 18:8; and 19:4, 5? What opposition did the early Christians face when they got baptized?
3. The Lord's Supper was another ceremony commanded by Jesus and practiced by the early church. (Luke 22:19; 1 Cor. 11:23-26). How long is the church to observe this ceremony? What is the stated purpose of this ceremony?
4. What was the problem in the Corinthian church that prompted Paul's warning in 1 Cor. 11:27-34?
5. How seriously does God take our attitude in observing communion (1 Cor. 11:30)? Does this seem too harsh?

GOING DEEPER

Jesus wanted to be baptized by John (the Baptist) though John thought it was not appropriate. Why did Jesus insist and what did it mean? How does that help us to understand Christian baptism?

Matt 3:13-15

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. ¹⁴But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"

¹⁵Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented.

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Is there anything you need to do differently as a result of this study on the ordinances commanded by Jesus Christ?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

1 Cor 11:1-2

¹Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ. ²I praise you for remembering me in everything and for holding to the teachings, just as I passed them on to you.