



**COMMUNITY
CHURCH**

Offer Hope. Grow in Community. Be the Church.

*As iron sharpens iron,
so one person sharpens another. (Proverbs 27:7)*

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

“Oh, that one of you would shut the temple doors, so that you would not light useless fires on my altar! I am not pleased with you,” says the Lord Almighty, “and I will accept no offering from your hands. My name will be great among the nations, from where the sun rises to where it sets. In every place incense and pure offerings will be brought to me, because my name will be great among the nations,” says the Lord Almighty. (Malachi 1:10-11)

In the following directives I have no praise for you, for your meetings do more harm than good. (1 Corinthians 11:17)

July 18, 2021

1 Corinthians 11:17-34: Looking... Back, Forward, Within and Around

(17-19)

What are the problems in Corinth?

Why does Paul suggest that there must be divisions in Corinth?

(20-23)

What was wrong with Corinth's love feasts?

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down His life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. (1 John 3:16-18)

(23-26)

How did Paul explain the Lord's Supper?

This is my body (1 Corinthians 11:24)

1. Transubstantiation (Catholic): bread and wine literally changed into the body and blood of Christ.
2. Consubstantiation (Luther): Unchanged substance of bread/wine is united with the substance of body/blood of Christ.
3. A mere remembrance (Zingli/Baptist): "Do this in remembrance of me."
4. Spiritual Presence (Calvin, Presbyterian): Jesus is present spiritually.

(27-32)

What is the unworthy manner in Corinth?

How about today?

(33-34)

What is Paul's practical advice?

4 Things to do at the "love feast" to remember and honor Jesus!

1. We should **look back**... at what Christ did for us!
2. We should **look forward** – to His promises.

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in Me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? (John 14:1-2)

3. We should **look within** – at an unworthy sinner saved by grace, repent and be thankful.
4. We should **look around** – at my brothers and sisters in Christ. Am I loving them?

HOME GROUP Questions for 1 Corinthians 11:17-34...

1. Compare the situation in Acts 2:41, 46-47 to the situation described by Paul at Corinth? What are the differences?
2. Division in the church is a serious problem. Read the following passages and discuss what you think God's view of dissent and division in the church is.
 - Romans 16:17
 - Titus 3:10-11
 - James 2:5-6
 - James 4:1-10
3. What do you think the real issue was surrounding communion? What do the actions indicate about the Corinthians? How does this teach us today about our attitude approaching communion?