

## 2 • A Memorial We Participate In

We see unleavened bread and fruit of the vine used in a special observance every first day of the week. *Why? What exactly is “the Lord’s Supper?”* Let’s go back to **Matthew 26:26-29** and listen in as Jesus was observing the ancient Passover with his disciples...



Now as they were eating, Jesus took \_\_\_\_\_, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my \_\_\_\_\_.” And he took a \_\_\_\_\_, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, for this is my \_\_\_\_\_ of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

In Luke’s account of this same moment, we hear Jesus saying, “Do this in \_\_\_\_\_ of me.” In other words, he wanted his disciples to use this unleavened bread and fruit of the vine as a **memorial** to what he accomplished for all of us. A memorial is something designed to preserve the memory of and honor a person or event. Think of the monuments you can see all over our country or some of our most special holidays. These are memorials and that’s what Jesus was starting for his disciples when he said, “Do this in remembrance of me.”

The earliest Christians took Jesus’ words from that night very seriously. In **Acts 2:42**, Luke tells us...

And they \_\_\_\_\_ themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of \_\_\_\_\_ and the prayers.

For 2,000 years, disciples of Jesus have used unleavened bread and fruit of the vine as a memorial to Jesus’ sacrifice for our sins. But **1 Corinthians 10:16** gives us one more really important point to understand:

The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a \_\_\_\_\_ in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ?

The Lord’s Supper isn’t just a memorial that we look at or hear about. It’s a memorial that Christians participate in every first day of the week. **Let’s talk about it...**



## For Class & Family Discussion:

- How do we know the bread that Jesus used in [Matthew 26:26](#) was unleavened bread?
- What did Jesus mean when he gave it to the disciples and said, “Take, eat; this is my body”?
- What about what he said next in [Matthew 26:27-28](#) as he took a cup and told his disciples, “Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins”? What was Jesus doing and why would he tell his disciples to “Do this in remembrance of me” ([Luke 22:19](#))?
- What sort of memorials or monuments or holidays can you think of in our own country that have been built or set aside “in remembrance” of some person or event? What are we doing as we visit those monuments or observe those holidays? Why?
- In [1 Corinthians 11:23](#), we heard the apostle Paul say, “I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you...” What did Paul want those Christians in Corinth to understand about this memorial?
- How do we know that disciples of Jesus observed this memorial on Sundays? Why not Mondays? Why not once-a-quarter or once-a-year? If we observe this memorial once-a-week, every week, shouldn't we worry about it becoming boring or taken for granted?
- Our video ended with [1 Corinthians 10:16](#) and the important idea of Christians **participating** in this memorial. The question is, **HOW?** How do Christians participate in this memorial?