

4 • An Opportunity

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?”* It’s an opportunity.

We’ve noticed throughout this study what Luke tells us about the earliest Christians.

And they _____ themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. (Acts 2:42)

On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break _____, Paul talked with them, intending to depart on the next day, and he prolonged his speech until midnight. (Acts 20:7)

As we devote *ourselves* to the apostles’ teaching and follow in the same footsteps, what sort of opportunities does the Lord’s Supper give us?

● An opportunity to say, “_____.”

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is _____. Do this in remembrance of me.” (1 Cor 11:23-24)



● An opportunity to _____.

In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, _____ of me.” (1 Cor 11:25)

● An opportunity to _____ myself.

Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an _____ manner will be _____ concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without _____ the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. But if we _____ ourselves truly, we would not be judged. But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world. (1 Cor 11:27-32)

The Lord’s Supper is a memorial we **participate** in. Every first day of the week, disciples of Jesus are blessed with a great opportunity. **Let’s talk about it...**



For Class & Family Discussion:

- Let's take a moment to think about this idea of an "opportunity." What's an opportunity? In order to benefit from a good opportunity, what do I have to do?

- What is the Lord's Supper? **It's an opportunity to say, "Thank you."**
 - As Christians observe the Lord's Supper, who are they saying, "Thank you" to?

 - Why is saying, "Thank you" (in a wide variety of life's experiences) so important?

 - What did Jesus mean when he said, "This is my body, which is for you" (1 Cor 11:24)?

- What is the Lord's Supper? **It's an opportunity to remember.**
 - As Christians observe the Lord's Supper, what sort of things should they remember?

 - What sort of things might be helpful to do even before our assemblies begin to get us in the right frame of mind to remember?

- What is the Lord's Supper? **It's an opportunity to examine myself.**
 - We heard some really serious God-breathed statements in 1 Corinthians 11:27 and 11:29-30. What do these warnings mean?

 - In everyday terms, what does it mean to "examine" myself (11:28)?

 - Examining ourselves may not always be the most pleasant thing to do, but is it good for us? If so, in what ways? What sort of opportunity is God giving us every week?