The Lord’s Supper

# The Host

‘The Lord’s supper’ (1 Corinthians 11:20)

Luke 22:7-20

Jesus was the host – and he still is today.

**Meals across the bible story**

* Adam and Eve welcome to eat of any tree of the garden (Genesis 2:16)
* Moses and the elders who “*beheld God, and ate and drank*” (Exodus 24:9-11)
* The prophets looking forward to a new future where the LORD would make “*a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined*” (Isaiah 25:6-8)
* The glorious future feast “*Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!*” (Rev. 19:9).

**5 different names for this meal**

* The breaking of bread - Acts 2:42 and 20:7
* The Lord’s table 1 Cor. 10:21
* The Lord’s supper 1 Cor. 11:20
* Participation or communion in the body and blood of Christ 1 Cor. 10:16-17
* Eucharist Luke 22:19

# The Guests

Beggars invited to the King’s banquet. Prodigals welcomed home.

This humbles us and lifts us up.

1 Cor 10:16 “*The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ?*”

One body 1 Cor 10:17 “*Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread*”

**Discussion Group 5-10 minutes**

What do you think of the Host? Anything new? Anything that has encouraged you?

What do you think of the description of the Guests? Anything new? Anything that has encouraged you?

# The Meal

1. **The meal is about Proclaiming the Gospel**

1 Cor 11:26 “*For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup you* *proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes*”

1. **The meal involves Eating and drinking**

Jesus instituted a physical meal. The Host serves real bread and wine.

1. **The meal is about Participating in Jesus Christ and his death and resurrection**

John 6:51-56. V. 56 “*Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them*”

1. **The meal is about Reminding, Remembering and Giving thanks**

The Host calls his guests to remember: “*do this in remembrance of me*” (Luke 22:19).

Don Carson: “*Here in this simple rite, Jesus insists that we go back to basics*.”[[1]](#endnote-1)

Eucharisto – give thanks

1. **The meal involves looking at ourselves**

1 Cor 11:27-29 “*27 Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. 28 Let a person examine themselves, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. 29 For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.*”

**Breakout groups – 10 minutes**

Which of the 5 aspects of the meal most stuck you? Why?

Which most encouraged you? Why?

# Books

Tim Chester *Truth We Can Touch*

Robert Letham *The Lord’s Supper*

Joel Beeke and Paul Smalley *Feasting with Christ*

1. <https://resources.thegospelcoalition.org/library/the-lord-s-supper-1-corinthians-11-17-31> [↑](#endnote-ref-1)