

# Discipleship Pathway 1

## Session 13: Communion

**“When Jesus wanted to explain to his disciples what his death was all about, he didn't give them a theory, he gave them a meal.”-N.T. Wright**

The Lord's Supper, consisting of the elements --bread and the fruit of the vine-- is the symbol expressing our sharing the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ, a memorial of his suffering and death, a prophecy of His second coming, and is enjoined on all believers "till He come!"<sup>1</sup>

The Lord's Supper, also known as communion, was initiated by Jesus at the \_\_\_\_\_ meal celebrated just prior to His death.

**Read: Matthew 26:26-29**

**Take time to discuss what you know about communion? What was your first experience with communion?**

Communion is a multi-faceted experience. It is meant to \_\_\_\_\_ a tremendous amount of truth. It is, in essence, the simplest declaration of the Gospel that a person can witness. In the elements we recognize Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ and the price that was paid for our \_\_\_\_\_.

**Read: Luke 24:47**

Our forgiveness was secured through the broken body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Without this sacrifice, we could not experience God's forgiveness. Communion serves as a \_\_\_\_\_ and a declaration of Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ work on the cross.

**Read: Hebrews 9:22**

In addition, communion allows us to share in a variety of components of Christ's life . First, it allows us to share the \_\_\_\_\_ of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Read: 2 Peter 1:4**

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<sup>1</sup> <https://ag.org/Beliefs/Statement-of-Fundamental-Truths#6>

Sharing in the divine nature does not make us divine, but it allows us to \_\_\_\_\_ with His willingness to lay aside His divine \_\_\_\_\_ to come and save a fallen humanity.

**Read: Philippians 2:5-8**

**Take a moment to discuss some of the things Jesus had to give up in order to come and save us?**

Communion also allows us to \_\_\_\_\_ His suffering and death.

**Read: 1 Corinthians 11:26**

Communion is a declaration of faith. As we participate in communion we give \_\_\_\_\_ to God's message of salvation. Charles Deems, an American Methodist minister, said it this way:

“The Lord's Supper has been greatly instrumental in keeping His cause alive. It is the voice of all believers preaching the Lord's death till He come.”

When we participate in communion we are \_\_\_\_\_ in a \_\_\_\_\_ message and demonstrating unity as a body of believers:

**Read: 1 Corinthians 10:17**

**Does communion make you feel closer to other believers? Does it help you feel like you share a common bond with the Body of Christ?**

Finally, communion serves as a \_\_\_\_\_ of His second coming.

**Read: 1 Corinthians 11:26**

“For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are announcing the Lord's death until he comes again.”

Communion not only looks back on Jesus' death, burial and resurrection, but it also looks \_\_\_\_\_ to His second coming. Each time we receive communion we are \_\_\_\_\_ His ultimate return. Communion will be a regular part of a believer's walk of faith until Jesus comes.

**This week's reading plan: Numbers Ch. 1-12, Proverbs Ch. 13**