

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

SEPTEMBER 13TH, 2026 // PRAYER & COMUNION

UNITY (1 CORINTHIANS 11:17–22)

“I DO NOT PRAISE YOU”

What was supposed to be an intimate time of worship and remembrance had turned into a circus.

- The church was to come together as one, but there were divisions among them instead.
- Factions had worked their way into the fellowship of the Lord's Supper.

DESPISING THE CHURCH OF GOD

Because people had brought their piety and success into the assembly, Paul pointed out that it was no longer Communion but comparison.

- There was nothing humble about their hearts. They were effectively humiliating those who had less than they did.
- There was no real intimacy with God or His Church.

PURPOSE (1 CORINTHIANS 11:23–26)

RECEIVED FROM THE LORD

Paul gets back to the basics and recounts for them the final Passover meal that Jesus had shared with His disciples.

- Jesus infused the meal with significance.
- The bread represents the body, and the cup is the New Covenant in His blood.
- They were to eat the bread and drink the cup in remembrance of Him.

THE NEW COVENANT

The New Covenant refers to the new relationship that God established through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

- Christians, Christ followers, Believers— people who trust the sacrifice of Christ for their sins—are members of the New Covenant.

REMEMBERING

Communion offers a uniquely powerful time of spiritual intimacy with the Lord.

- That is why we are encouraged to partake as often as possible.
- It is a special sharing with Christ, beyond the normal relationship, enabling us to fellowship with Him at a deeper level.

PROCLAIM THE LORD'S DEATH

We are to proclaim the Lord's death because He is the only complete sacrifice.

- We proclaim that He has victory over sin and has won that for us on the cross.
- It is an invitation to the world to trust Christ for forgiveness and eternal life.
- It is a statement to evil and its defeat.
- It is the Church recognizing Christ's victory over OUR sin!

MOTIVE (1 CORINTHIANS 11:27–32)

AN UNWORTHY MANNER

Paul has one more thing to say, and it's about our hearts.

- He isn't referring to personal worthiness.
- We are all sinful; no person is worthy of salvation. That's why we need God's grace.
- They were taking something sacred and treating it as common. They were self-centered, not God-focused.

“LET A PERSON EXAMINE HIMSELF”

Paul shares that they must take Communion seriously, recognizing its spiritual and physical significance.

- This is about personal sin and how we relate to one another.
- How we relate to Christ's Body (the Church) affects how God relates to us.
- We need to pray!

PRAY (MATTHEW 7:7–12)

ASK, SEEK, FIND

Prayer is an earthly request for heavenly intervention. It doesn't make God do what's outside His will; it aligns us with His will.

- God has a perfect plan for us and continues to work out that plan, even when we can't see it.
- Are we ready to pray the right way?

P.R.A.Y.

There is no wrong way to pray, just wrong intentions.

- Praise: Because He created and loved us.
- Repentance: Because we sin.
- Another: Because we care.
- Yourself: Because you are His (He knows your name).

INTIMACY

- Intimacy is honesty.
- God is honest with us. Are we honest with Him?
- Prayer and Communion are our opportunities to deepen our intimacy with God. “Into-Me-See” is what God is offering. How will we see Him and ourselves today?