

**Do This in Remembrance of Me**

Matthew 26:26-29

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Introduction: The Lord's Supper has had many names and has been the source of considerable debate. It was originally based on the Passover meal, where Jesus gave new meaning in light of a new covenant. This seemingly simple ceremony led the early church to experience controversies from within and without. Over time, questions were raised about the bread: what type of bread, what happens to the bread, and whether it was sufficient to provide bread only. Reformers divided over the real presence of Christ in the meal; and evangelicals divided over whether non-believers should partake. More recently, the cup has been the focus of attention with issues of content and symbolism. Despite these differences, the Bible is sufficiently clear regarding the reason we observe; the symbols we use; the participants we welcome; the frequency of our participation; and the ultimate occasion for the Lord's Supper.

01. Jesus dined with sinners and offered himself as the solution to their sins

02. Jesus intends for us to use both bread and cup

03. Jesus invites believers to partake

04. Jesus encourages us to observe this meal again and again

05. Jesus promises to dine with us when He returns

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1. Although there is some dispute about the timing of Jesus's last meal with His disciples, most biblical scholars identify this as a Passover meal. What parallels do you find in the observance of Passover and the Lord's Supper? Think along the lines of substitutionary, sacrificial death; old and new covenant; and celebrating past redemption with an eye towards future consummation.

2. Do you have a favorite memory of participating in the Lord's Supper? What made this occasion unique? In what biblical and practical ways do you think the Lord's Supper can become more meaningful today?

3. Do you find convincing evidence in Scripture for the doctrine of transubstantiation? How does the development of this doctrine serve as a warning about the use of tradition in church practices?

4. What examples from Scripture can you think of that incorporate visible signs to reinforce spiritual realities? How do such visible signs reinforce, rather than replace, the means of grace we receive through the preaching and reading of the Word of God?

5. Prior to instituting the Lord's Supper in Matthew 26, Jesus taught in parables regarding His return (Matthew 25). How does the message of these parables connect with His promise to dine with us when He returns? How does the Lord's Supper encourage you to look forward to His coming, as well as look back to His work on the cross?

For Further Reading: John Hammett, *40 Questions about Baptism and the Lord's Supper*. Kregel, 2015.

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