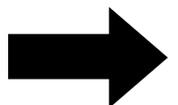


DEVOTED: To the Breaking of Bread: The early church set a precedent for us in their observance of the Lord's Supper. This study serves to give understanding on our practice of communion.

1. What is something you do or something you have that holds a lot of symbolism for you? What makes that activity or object special to you?
2. On Sunday, the message was centered around the Lord's supper, and how the apostles and the early church were devoted to the breaking of bread. What did you learn through the message on Sunday?
3. Depending on how long you've been a Christian, you may have taken communion hundreds of times - or just a handful of times. Think back on all those communion experiences. Is there one that stands out to you among the rest? What makes that communion experience memorable or special for you?
4. Many churches practice communion in a wide variety of ways. Mt. Gilead chooses to observe the Lord's Supper every Sunday because we see that behavior outlined in the meetings of the early church. While there isn't any specific command to take the Lord's supper every week, there is certainly a precedent set by the early church that serves as our best example of how to observe the Lord's Supper. **Look up Acts 20:7 and 1 Corinthians 16:2 and discuss what they say about the frequency of the Lord's Supper.**



5. **Read 1 Corinthians 11:17-26** and answer the following questions.

What kinds of things were happening in the Corinthian church that Paul is seeking to correct?

When did Jesus give us the model of the Lord's Supper that we use today?

What does the element of bread represent?

What does the element of the cup represent?

6. Being "devoted to the breaking of bread" has a very communal aspect in that it is done together with a group of believers, however, there is something deeply personal about taking the Lord's Supper. **Read 1 Corinthians 11:28**. What command does Paul give in these verses? What are the participants expected to do whenever they eat and drink of the Lord's Supper?

7. **Read 1 Corinthians 11:29**. Paul says that those who eat and drink should believe in Jesus and His sacrifice...this is what he means by "discerning the body of Christ". Why would Paul give such an instruction?

8. The moment of your baptism represents a kind of "I do" where you commit to the Lord and His church. Every time you take communion, you are repeating an "I continue" in the practice of your faith and commitment to Jesus. How could this perspective elevate your personal time of communion?

PRAYER TIME: Take prayer requests and fervently pray to God that His church would glorify Him through Christians practicing the Lord's Supper.

UPCOMING: DEVOTED SEMINAR coming up on Sunday, November 22 from 3-7pm. The author of the **DEVOTED** book, Arron Chambers, will be here and conducting this seminar.