

God-The Ultimate Humanitarian

Chapter 16: A Humanitarian by Giving Us His Supper

In our last lesson, we saw how God sends his Holy Spirit to work in our hearts through the Gospel in the Sacrament of Baptism.

Not only does God tell us he loves us, he put that love into action by sending Jesus into the world to save us. In the same way, he not only tells us we are forgiven and saved, he also puts that forgiveness and promise into action by bringing that to us in a personal way.

The Sacraments are an assurance and reassurance that God does love us. In these Sacraments, we can taste, see, and touch God's love for us.

Today, we look at the Lord's Supper. It is called this because Jesus, our Lord, instituted it and commanded that we continue to celebrate this meal. It is also called communion because, in this meal, we are joined together with Christ in what he has done to save us and we are joined with those whom we are at the altar with in a bond of unity and faith.

.....what did you learn from chapter 16?

1. For whose benefit does God give the Gospel in Word and Sacraments, his or ours?
2. Why does he give them?
3. You may have realized by now that the Bible has a lot of depth. There are many activities that have deep significance that we sometimes miss. One of those is the meal. Pastor Cares talks about the significance of eating together. What did he say that eating together showed?
4. Part of that symbolism and significance of what Jesus did is seen in the meal that he was eating at the time. What meal were Jesus and his disciples eating when Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper?
5. What did that meal remember?
6. What would this meal remember?

7. God invites sinners like you and I to join together in this special meal. When we eat this meal what are we receiving?

✦ Luke 22:19. ¹⁹ And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.”

✦ Matthew 26:27-28. ²⁷ Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. ²⁸ This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

8. Churches teach different things about Holy Communion. If Holy Communion were just symbolic, we could change it any way we wanted to. However, when Jesus is the one who is commanding it and he gives us specific directions, we should listen and believe what he says. Do bread and wine just represent the body and blood of Jesus so that bread and wine are just there?

✦ 1 Corinthians 10:16. Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?

9. Are bread and wine changed into the body and blood of Jesus, so that only the body and blood are there?

✦ 1 Corinthians 10:16. Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?

10. What are the blessings of the Lord's Supper?

✦ Luke 22:19-20. ¹⁹ And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.”

²⁰ In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.

11. Not only does God say you are forgiven, he also has sealed that promise in something special. What did he seal this special promise with?

12. How do we prepare for the Lord's Supper?

✦ 1 Corinthians 11:28-29. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. ²⁹ For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself.

13. Pastor Cares listed some very important things that we should recognize and realize about the Lord's Supper as we examine ourselves?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

14. _____ According to God's Word, is everyone allowed to come to Holy Communion?

15. _____ When people come into a church, do they automatically know what that church teaches?

16. _____ When a person walks into a church, do they automatically agree (are they unified) with what they church teaches?

17. _____ When a person walks into a church, do they automatically know what God says about his Holy Supper?

18. _____ When a person walks into a church, do they automatically know what they are to examine, or what it means to examine themselves.

19. What do we need to do because all of these answers are no?

Think about Matthew 28:19-20. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

20. Discuss the similarities between baptism and the Lord's Supper.

21. Discuss the differences between baptism and the Lord's Supper.

22. How does God demonstrate himself to be the Ultimate Humanitarian in giving us this meal?

Assignment: Please read Chapter 17 & 18 of *God-The Ultimate Humanitarian*