

UNDERSTANDING
THE LORD'S SUPPER
AS THE LIFESTYLE OF A KINGDOM CITIZEN
Part 1.

Acts 2:42-47 (NIV)
Luke 24:30-34 (NKJV)



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQS)

- How should I refer to it?
- How often should we partake of the Lord's Supper (also known as communion)?
- Is it one of the ways we remember the life/death of Jesus?
- How should we discern the body and blood of Jesus Christ?
- Why should we physically break the element of bread in the communion?
- How should we partake of the communion?
- Why is it a lifestyle?
- Must I receive the communion through a priest, pastor, reverend, etc.?
- Must I be in a church/fellowship building to partake of the communion?
- Must I partake with others or alone?
- Etc.

How should I refer to it?

References - Matthew 26:17-30; Mark 14:12-26; Luke 22:7-38 and John 6:25-59; 13:26.

- Lord's Supper.
- Last Supper.
- Holy Communion.
- Communion.

The term Communion is derived from Latin *communio* ("sharing in common"), which translates Greek *κοινωνία* (*koinōnía*).

1 Corinthians 10:16 (NKJV)

The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?

Communion, a lifestyle for the believer.

Acts 2:42-47 (NIV)

42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.

44 All the believers were together and had everything in common.

45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.

46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts,

47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Lessons from Acts 2:42-47 (NIV)

- i. Breaking bread must be one of the devotions (what you give time to) of the believer. vs 42
- ii. The believer must be taught this truth as part of their spiritual foundational pillars. vs 42
- iii. Expect signs and wonders to follow your understanding and partaking of communion. vs 43
- iv. Partaking of communion is a lifestyle. Therefore,
 - it can be done in your homes. vs 46
 - you can partake of it by yourself and/or together with your family. vs 46
- v. Do not partake of the communion grudgingly or sorrowfully. Do it joyfully. vs 46

Communion, a lifestyle for the believer.

Luke 24:30-35 (NKJV)

30 Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.

31 Then their eyes were opened and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight.

32 And they said to one another, “Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?”

33 So they rose up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven and those *who were* with them gathered together,

34 saying, “The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!”

35 And they told about the things *that had happened* on the road, and how He was known to them in the breaking of bread.

Lessons from Luke 24:30-34 (NKJV)

i. Partaking of the Lord's Supper is a lifestyle.

30 “Now, it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them...

They were at a dinner setting. vs 30

Lessons from Luke 24:30-34 (NKJV)

ii. Always thank God for the bread.

30 ...that He took bread, **blessed** and broke *it*, and gave it to them.

The bread is *symbolic* of the body of Jesus.

“Jesus is the Bread of life.” John 6:35.

“Jesus is the **WORD** made flesh.” John 1:14.

When you thank God for the bread...

- 1) you are thanking Him for His Son and the sacrifice He made for us when he walked the earth.
- 2) you are thanking Him for the **WORD**.

Before studying the **WORD**, always thank God for the **WORD** and the understanding and encounters that you will receive as you study.

Lessons from Luke 24:30-34 (NKJV)

iii. Break the bread before partaking. It is a **symbolic act** and **prophetic act**.

30 ...that He took bread, blessed and **broke it**, and gave it to them.

-Breaking the bread is **symbolic act** of what happened to *Jesus' body (not His bones)*.

His body was broken so that ours can be made whole.

John 19:33 (NIV)

But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they *did not break his legs.*

John 19:36 (NIV)

These things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled: *"Not one of his bones will be broken..."*

Psalms 34:20 (NIV)

he protects all his bones, not one of them will be broken.

Lessons from Luke 24:30-34 (NKJV)

-A **prophetic act** is a Holy Spirit inspired physical action that disrupts the atmosphere .
(Quote by Beni Johnson, Bethel Church).

The prophetic act of breaking the bread opens up the eyes of our understanding. Such that when we study scripture after breaking the bread and partaking of it, we get deeper understanding and encounters.

The secret of going deeper in the WORD is to partake of the communion prior to studying the word. By doing so, you exchange your “misconceptions”; “misunderstandings”; “mistakes”; “confusions”, etc. associated with studying the WORD, for “complete wholeness and total understanding of the WORD.

30 Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and **broke it**, and gave it to them.

31 Then their **eyes were opened**, and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight.

The breaking of the bread **preceded** the opening of their eyes. Prior to now, their eyes were restrained.

Lessons from Luke 24:30-34 (NKJV)

Luke 24:16 (NKJV)

16 But their eyes were **restrained**, so that they did not **know** Him.

-The Greek word for know used here is *epiginosko*.

Luke 24:31 (NKJV)

31 Then their eyes were **opened**, and they **knew** Him; and He vanished from their sight.

-The Greek word for know used here is *epiginosko*.

Epiginóskó - *is intensive and it is knowledge that is precise, accurate and correct.*

2 Corinthians 5:7 (NIV) - **7** For we live by faith, not by sight.

Types of Knowledge described in the New Testament

- **Gnóstos** (Greek word): known (the facts and be acquainted with them).

John 18:15 (NKJV)

Simon Peter and another disciple were following Jesus. Because this disciple was *known* to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the high priest's courtyard.

Acts 19:17 (NKJV)

This became *known* both to all Jews and Greeks dwelling in Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified.

Acts 9:42 (NKJV)

And it became *known* throughout all Joppa, and many believed on the Lord.

Types of Knowledge described in the New Testament

- **Ginóskó:** To know experientially and through relationship. It is knowledge that is participatory, ongoing and salvific.

John 17:3 (NKJV)

And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

Philippians 3:8, 10 (NKJV)

8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ

10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

Luke 1:34 (NKJV)

Then Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I do not know a man?”

Types of Knowledge described in the New Testament

- **Epiginóskó:** to know exactly, to recognize. **Epiginóskó** is intensive and it is knowledge that is precise, accurate and correct.

Luke 24:16 (NKJV)

16 But their eyes were restrained, so that they did not *know* Him.

Luke 24:31 (NKJV)

31 Then their eyes were opened and they *knew* Him; and He vanished from their sight.

Matthew 7:20 (NKJV)

Therefore, by their fruits you will *know* them.

Types of Knowledge described in the New Testament

- ***eídō (oida)*** - (Greek word): to be aware, to behold, to perceive. **Fullness of knowledge.**

Matthew 6:32 (NKJV)

For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father **knows** that you need all these things.

Matthew 7:11 (NKJV)

If you then, being evil, **know** how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

Matthew 9:4 (NKJV)

But Jesus, **knowing** their thoughts, said, “Why do you think evil in your hearts?

Luke 24:16, 30-35 (NKJV)

¹⁶ But their eyes were restrained, so that they did not *know* (*epiginóskó*) Him.

³⁰ Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke *it*, and gave it to them.

³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they *knew* (*epiginóskó*) Him; and He vanished from their sight.

³² And they said to one another, “Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?”

³³ So they rose up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven and those *who were* with them gathered together,

³⁴ saying, “The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!”

³⁵ And they told about the things *that had happened* on the road, and how He was *known* (*ginóskó*) to them in the breaking of bread.

Assignments

- Listen to this video again.
- Everyday this week, partake of the Lord's Supper with understanding
 - in your home.
 - coordinate the communion sessions.
- Always remember to partake of the Lord's Supper prior to studying the Word. Break the bread, it will help you not only *ginosko* the Lord but *epiginosko* Him.
- As a way of getting ready for next Sunday, study **1 Corinthians 11:17-34**.

Prayer

“Discern” and “Partake” of the Body and Blood of Jesus.

- Psalm 103 2:3 (NIV)

² Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his **benefits**
³ who *forgives all your sins* and *heals all your diseases*.

Through the breaking of His body, you are made whole.

Through the blood of the new covenant, your sins are forgiven.

1 Corinthians 11:26 (AMPC)

²⁶ For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are representing *and* signifying *and* proclaiming the fact of the Lord's death until He comes [again].



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