**SIMPLE FAITH SERIES**

**“The Lord’s Supper”**

**Sunday, August 26, 2012**

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**Meaning**The church observes the Lord’s Supper, as instituted by Christ. The Lord's Supper points to Christ, whose body was broken for us and whose blood was shed to assure salvation for believers and to establish the new covenant. Through the supper, the church identifies with the life of Christ given for the redemption of humanity and proclaims the Lord’s death until he comes. The supper expresses the fellowship and unity of all believers with Christ and embodies remembrance, celebration, and praise, strengthening believers for true discipleship and service.

**Practice and Participation**
In preparation for the fellowship of the Lord’s Supper, all believers should examine themselves. All those who understand the supper's meaning, confess Jesus Christ as Lord in word and life, are accountable to their congregation, and are living in right relationship with God and others are invited to participate in the Lord’s Supper. The normal pattern in the New Testament was that baptism preceded participation in the Lord’s Supper.

[Matthew 26:26-30; Acts 2:41-42; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; 11:23-32](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew%2026:26-30;%20Acts%202:41-42;%201%20Corinthians%2010:16-17;%201%20Corinthians%2011:23-32&version=31;)

1. **At the Lord’s Supper we celebrate our salvation.**

I Cor 11:24-25 “The Lord Jesus toke some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and said, ‘This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me’. In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper saying, ‘this cup is the new covenant between God and his people – and agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this to to remember me as often as you drink it’.”

1. **At the Lord’s Supper we celebrate our commitment to one another.**

I Cor 10:17 “And though we are many, we all eat from one load of bread, showing that we are one body.”

I Cor 11:17-18 “But in the following instructions, I cannot praise you. For it sounds as if more harm than good is done when you meet together. First, I hear that there are divisions among you…”

1. **At the Lord’s Supper we celebrate our anticipation of Christ’s Return.**

Matt 26:29 “Mark my words – I will not drink wine again until the day I drink it new with you in my Father’s Kingdom.”

I Cor 11:26 “For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are announcing the Lord’s death until he comes again.”

**Action Step**: These truths invite us to examine the state of our relationship with God and with our interpersonal relationships. Let’s allow Christ’s grace and love to flow through us.