

TOGETHER AS ONE

CMBC September 1, 2013 Communion

Luke 22:14 – 20

This Scripture passage tells us of the last meal Jesus had with His disciples. They are together as one at the table.

1. TOGETHER AS ONE AT THE TABLE

a. The eagerness of Jesus to be at this meal

Luke 22:14 When the hour came, Jesus and his disciples reclined at the table. [15] And he said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.”

i. The eagerness comes from his joy at the gift he is about to offer his disciples.

Hebrews 12 :2 Who for the joy set before him, endured the cross, despising it shame.

ii. Jesus eagerly looks forward to us coming to this table, remembering again the gift he has given us.

b. The sharing of the disciples

[17] After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, “Take this and divide it among you

NLT Take this and share it among yourselves.

i. We are together with Jesus and together with each other.

ii. This is a meal that we share together,

iii. We share in the gift Jesus gave us

c. Looking forward to the next meal with Jesus

[16] For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God.”

i. There is a greater feast coming which is made possible because of what this meal represents.

ii. It is a meal at which Jesus will again sit among us and eat with us

iii. Jesus is looking forward to that day

2. HIS PRESENCE IN OUR FEARS

- a. The fears of His disciples
 - i. Didn't understand the plan Jesus had – didn't make sense to them
 - ii. How would they do without Jesus?
 - iii. Fear of dying that evening, so they hid behind locked doors.
 - iv. The fear that their hope in God was over

- b. God is present
 - i. The BREAD represented the presence of God, then and now.
Jesus the Son of God, present here on earth.
 - ii. **"This is my body"** – remember my presence

- c. Present with us in our fears
 - i. What are the challenges and fears we face?
 1. Aging and a weakening body
 2. Changes in our life situation
 3. Changes in how things are done, even at the church
 4. Vulnerable to what people might do
 5. The busyness of our families and feeling forgotten.

 - ii. He is here
 1. I will never leave you or forsake you
 2. I will send a Comforter
 3. Put your fears into my hands.
 4. I am here

 - iii. Eating this bread is to remember that he is here
[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."
 1. Jesus knew the suffering he would face, the "breaking" of his body, BUT he gave thanks
 2. Remember that he is here for you
 3. Thank him that if he was willing to come here, face the same challenges and fears you face, he will understand your fears and be with you.
 4. **"This is my body which was broken for you."**

3. REALEASED FROM OUR WEAKNESSESS

- a. The spiritual weaknesses of the disciples
 - i. Even at this meal to which Jesus was eagerly looking forward, he knew how the disciples would fail him
 - ii. He knew their weaknesses and still he was eager to be there with them and share this meal

- b. Jesus shed His blood to deliver them
 - i. Part of his eagerness was in knowing that his shed blood would change them
 - ii. His shed blood would make possible a victory over their sin

- c. Trusting in His redemption
 - i. Their drinking this cup later would express their trust in him that their sins had been forgiven.
 - ii. **[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.
 - iii. Accepting the cup is to accept that Jesus died for my sin