



Daily Devotionals - September 1, 2024

The Lord's Supper

Day 1: The Institution of the Lord's Supper

Scripture: Luke 22:19-20

"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.' 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.'"

Reflection:

The Last Supper was a pivotal moment when Jesus instituted the practice of Communion. In this act, Jesus gave His disciples a tangible way to remember His sacrifice. The bread and wine symbolize His body and blood, given for our salvation. Every time we partake in Communion, we are reminded of the depth of Jesus' love and the new covenant established through His sacrifice.

Story:

A young boy attended Communion for the first time, holding the bread in his hand, unsure of its significance. His grandmother leaned over and whispered, "This bread reminds us of Jesus' love. Every time you eat it, remember that Jesus loves you so much He gave His life for you." The boy smiled, understanding that this small piece of bread conveyed a powerful love message.

Prayer:

Dear Lord, thank You for the incredible gift of Communion, a sacred act where we remember Your boundless love and ultimate sacrifice. As we take the bread, may we be deeply aware of the sacrifice of Your body, broken for us. As we drink from the cup, may we feel the profound significance of Your blood, shed for the forgiveness of our sins. Help us not take this moment lightly but approach it with reverence, gratitude, and a heart that seeks to honor You. May this remembrance renew our spirits and deepen our connection with You, inspiring us to live out the love and grace You have shown us. Amen.

Day 2: A Meal of Remembrance**Scripture: 1 Corinthians 11:24-25**

“And when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, ‘This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.’ In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.’”

Reflection:

Communion is more than a ritual; it is a sacred act of remembering Jesus' sacrifice. When we eat the bread and drink the cup, we are not just recalling an event from the past but actively participating in Christ's life-giving grace. It's a moment to reflect on His love and renew our commitment to live in a way that honors Him.

Story:

A woman who had been away from church for many years found herself in a small chapel one Sunday morning. As the congregation prepared for Communion, she felt a rush of emotions. The bread and wine brought back memories of her childhood faith. As she partook, she realized that Jesus had never forgotten her, and in that moment, she recommitted her life to Him.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, we come before You with gratitude as we remember Your sacrifice through Communion. Thank You for giving us this powerful way to recall the depth of Your love and the lengths You went to save us. As we break the bread and drink the cup, let us be reminded that we are part of Your story of redemption, love, and grace. Help us to remember that this meal is not just a ritual but a sacred time to reconnect with You and renew our commitment to follow You faithfully. May each Communion draw us closer to You and strengthen our resolve to live in Your love daily. Amen.

Day 3: The Bread of Life

Scripture: John 6:35

“Then Jesus declared, ‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.’”

Reflection:

Jesus declared Himself the "bread of life," offering spiritual sustenance beyond physical needs. In Communion, we are reminded that just as bread nourishes our bodies, Jesus nourishes our souls. His presence fills our deepest hunger and thirst, giving us the strength and grace we need daily.

Story:

A man struggling with addiction found solace in the Lord's Supper. He shared that every time he partook in Communion, he felt a renewed strength to continue his recovery journey. The bread and wine reminded him that Jesus was with him, providing the spiritual nourishment he needed to overcome his challenges.

Prayer:

Jesus, You are the true bread of life, the source of all spiritual nourishment. As we come to Your table, we acknowledge that only You can satisfy the deepest hunger of our souls. Thank You for feeding us with Your presence and filling us with Your love. In moments of weakness and doubt, remind us that we can find all we need in You. Let the bread we break together remind us that You are always with us, providing the strength and sustenance we need to face each day. Help us rely entirely on You, trusting in Your provision and grace, and may we always be grateful for the life You give. Amen.

Day 4: A Table of Grace

Scripture: Matthew 26:28

“This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.”

Reflection:

The Lord's Supper is a powerful reminder of God's grace. The blood of Jesus, represented by the cup, was shed for the forgiveness of our sins. When we come to the Communion table, we come not because we are worthy but because Jesus has made us worthy through His sacrifice. It's a table of grace where all are invited to receive God's forgiveness and love.

Story:

A woman who felt unworthy of God's love hesitated to participate in Communion. She carried the weight of past mistakes, believing she wasn't good enough to come to the table. But one

Sunday, her pastor reminded the congregation that Communion is a gift of grace, not something earned. With tears in her eyes, she took the bread and cup, finally understanding that Jesus' sacrifice was for her.

Prayer:

Gracious God, we come to Your table not because we are worthy but because of Your amazing grace. Thank You for the forgiveness and love that You pour out on us through the sacrifice of Jesus. As we partake in Communion, let us be mindful of the significant cost at which our salvation was purchased. May this bread and cup remind us that Your love knows no bounds and that Your grace is sufficient for all our needs. Help us to receive this gift with humble hearts, fully aware that Your grace makes us whole. May we be transformed by this encounter with You and extend the same grace to others in our daily lives. Amen.

Day 5: Communion with Christ

Scripture: 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?”

Reflection:

Communion is more than a symbol; it is a participation in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. When we partake in the Lord's Supper, we are profoundly united with Christ, sharing His sacrifice and resurrection power. It's a moment of deep communion with our Savior, where His presence is made real in breaking bread.

Story:

A young man felt distant from God and struggled to feel His presence. During a Communion service, he suddenly felt a deep connection with Christ as he ate the bread and drank the cup. It was as if Jesus was right there with him, reminding him that He had never left. From that day forward, Communion became a precious time of renewal and intimacy with God.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, we thank You for the incredible privilege of communing with You through the bread and the cup. As we share in this sacred meal, help us feel Your presence profoundly and personally. Let this time be more than just a remembrance but a deep participation in Your life, death, and resurrection. Draw us closer to You, and let our hearts be filled with the peace that comes from knowing You are near. May this Communion strengthen our faith, renew our spirits, and remind us that we are never alone. As we leave Your table, help us to carry Your love and presence with us, sharing it with those we meet each day. Amen.

Day 6: A Meal of Unity

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 10:17

“Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all share the one loaf.”

Reflection:

The Lord’s Supper is a personal encounter with Christ and a communal act that unites believers. When we share in the bread and wine, we are reminded that we are part of the body of Christ, the Church. Communion brings us together, breaking down barriers and uniting us in the love and grace of Jesus.

Story:

In a small church in a divided community, Communion became a powerful symbol of unity. Despite their differences, the congregation came together to share in the Lord’s Supper. As they broke bread and drank the cup, they realized that what united them in Christ was far greater than anything that could divide them.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the unity we experience as we come together at Your table. In an often-divided world, we are grateful for the reminder that we are all in Christ. As we share in the bread and the cup, help us to see one another as brothers and sisters, united in Your love. Let this meal symbolize the peace and unity You desire for Your Church. May we be inspired to break down barriers and build bridges of understanding, compassion, and grace. As we leave this sacred space, may we carry the spirit of unity with us, working to bring Your love and reconciliation to a divided world. Amen. Day 7: Looking Forward to the Heavenly Feast

Scripture: Matthew 26:29

“I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

Reflection:

Jesus’ words at the Last Supper point us to a future hope—the heavenly banquet we will share with Him in His kingdom. Communion is a foretaste of this glorious feast, reminding us that one day, we will be with Jesus, celebrating the fullness of His kingdom. Until that day, we take Communion as an act of remembrance, anticipation, and hope.

Story:

An elderly man, nearing the end of his life, took Communion with his family one last time. As they shared the bread and wine, he smiled and said, “The next time I do this, I’ll be with Jesus.”

His faith and hope in the promise of the heavenly banquet brought comfort and peace to his family, knowing that he looked forward to the day when he would be reunited with Christ.

Prayer:

Lord, we thank You for the hope and promise of eternal life with You. As we partake in Communion, let our hearts be filled with anticipation for the day we will join You at the heavenly banquet. Help us to live each day with this glorious future in mind, knowing that our time here on earth is just a foretaste of the joy to come. May this meal strengthen our faith and renew our commitment to walk in Your ways as we look forward to the day when all will be made new. Keep us mindful of the eternal significance of our lives and help us to live in a way that honors You, bringing glory to Your name. Amen.