

UNDERSTANDING COMMUNION

Resurrection Baptist Church celebrates communion on the first Sunday of each month. We recognize that many of our iCampus visitors may wish to celebrate communion with us. We warmly welcome anyone interested in celebrating communion with us to join us. However, we want to ensure that all that share this ordinance have the opportunity to clearly understand its meaning. The following paragraphs are intended to provide you with some very brief communion guidelines to help you understand this event and to make this a meaningful celebration.

WHAT IS COMMUNION (The LORD'S Supper)?

Communion is the regular remembrance and celebration of the Lord's sacrificial death. The breaking and eating of bread has to do with Christ's body being broken on the cross. The drinking from the cup has to do with the shedding of Christ's blood whereby we are forgiven.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF COMMUNION?

The primary purpose of communion is to take time to remember all that the Lord did for us. It is a time to worship and to give thanks for the forgiveness of our sins and for the new life and relationship that we have in Jesus Christ. This time of remembrance was initiated by Jesus just before His death. Because we tend to be forgetful people, in the Old Testament, believers were called to remember the faithfulness of God through various memorials. In the New Testament, this is the way that Jesus wanted us to remember His love and forgiveness of our sins. Communion is also a time of personal examination. It is a time to examine our relationship with the Lord as well as with others.

WHO CAN TAKE COMMUNION?

Any person who has believed in or trusted the Lord Jesus Christ, alone for their salvation. It is also important that the believer wishing to celebrate communion understands the purpose of communion and why they are commanded by Christ to celebrate communion.

COMMUNION SCRIPTURES

Matthew 26:26-28

Mark 14:22-24

Luke 22:19-20

1 Corinthians 10:16-17

1 Corinthians 11:24-26

John 6:53-54

WHERE AND HOW OFTEN SHOULD WE CELEBRATE COMMUNION?

It is a good thing for believers to celebrate communion not only "at church" but may also celebrate in their homes and in other appropriate places. Communion can be celebrated regularly and as often as one feels is appropriate. In Acts 2:42-47, believers met on a regular basis in their homes to celebrate communion. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.