

Name: _____

Abiding Savior Free Lutheran Church Confirmation

The Lord’s Supper: Part 1 - Scripture

After completing the lesson, the student will be able to:

- List the similarities between Lord’s Supper and Baptism
- Explain who is at work in the Lord’s Supper
- Describe what Jesus says the bread and the cup are in the Lord’s Supper
- Explain the Jewish roots of the Lord’s Supper
- List what gifts God is giving to us in the Lord’s Supper

THE LORD’S SUPPER IN LIGHT OF BAPTISM

Before we began our journey together in understanding the Lord’s Supper, I believe that a quick review on baptism is needed. Here’s a pop quiz; do you recall the three words that were used to describe baptism? I know that you all answered, “means of Grace”. With that I say congratulations! You’re ready to move on to the next lesson. The good news is that if you will keep in mind how baptism works as a means of Grace, then understanding the Lord’s Supper as a means of Grace will not be too difficult. Just as the blessings of faith, grace and forgiveness are offered by God’s actions alone in baptism, it’s through the bread and wine where He makes available these blessings to us as well.

Another way that the Lord’s Supper and Baptism are closely related is who is working in the Sacrament. As we discussed in the past couple of lessons on Baptism, some Christians believe that baptism is a good work they do for God. But as Lutherans, we believe scripture teaches that God is the one who is at work in Baptism, and we are simply the recipients of God’s work. Well, the same is true of the Lord’s Supper. Even though there are some Christians who view the Lord’s Supper as a good work that they are doing for God, Lutherans believe that scripture teaches the Lord’s Supper is something that God is giving to us, and is something God is doing for our benefit.

1. Just like in baptism, who is at work in the Lord’s Supper? Draw a picture to help illustrate this point.

THE LORD’S SUPPER IN THE BIBLE

God’s Word is the place to look to understand the Lord’s Supper. When we realize that the Bible isn’t just an account written by men, but it is the very Word of God, we can read these passages knowing (1) that it is truth, and (2) that we can understand it. So, let’s take a look at the passages of scripture that teach us about the Lord’s Supper.

2. Read Matthew chapter 26, verses 17-19 & 26-29 then answer the following questions.
 - a. What Jewish festival was being celebrated, and what meal would Jesus share with his disciples?
 - b. What did Jesus say about the bread... what is it?
 - c. What did Jesus say about the cup... what is it?
 - d. What did Jesus say the purpose of the cup is... what is it for?
3. Read Mark chapter 14, verses 12 & 22-25 then answer the following questions.
 - a. What Jewish festival was being celebrated, and what meal would Jesus share with his disciples?
 - b. What did Jesus say about the bread... what is it?
 - c. What did Jesus say about the cup... what is it?
4. Read Luke chapter 22, verses 7-8 & 19-20
 - a. What Jewish festival was being celebrated, and what meal would Jesus share with his disciples?
 - b. What did Jesus say about the bread... what is it, and who is it for?

- c. What did Jesus say about the cup... what is it, and who is it for?
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- 5. Read I Corinthians 11:23-26, then answer the following questions. (Remember, this is the Apostle Paul writing a letter to the Christians in the Corinthian church.)
 - a. Who did Paul receive this information about the Lord’s Supper from?
 - b. What did Jesus say about the bread... what is it?
 - c. What did Jesus say about the cup... what is it?
 - d. What do we proclaim when we take the Lord’s Supper?
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- 6. Read John 6:51-58, then answer the following questions. (Remember, this is Jesus talking.)
 - a. Who is the bread that came down from heaven?
 - b. What is the result of eating the “bread from Heaven”?
 - c. Who gives us this bread, and why does He give it (for what purpose)?
 - d. What is the results of eating Jesus’ flesh and drinking His blood?

- e. In v. 58 Jesus mentions how God provided Israel with bread from heaven called *manna*. Looking at v. 58, How is the “bread from heaven” Jesus gives us now different and better than manna?

7. I Corinthians 10:16-17

- a. What is the cup of blessing?
- b. What is the bread that we break?
- c. What makes someone part of the “one body” of Christ?

From reading these passages, we see three things that show the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament.

- (1) Jesus instituted the Lord’s Supper
- (2) the Lord’s Supper includes the bread and cup as visible, material means;
- (3) that God graciously gives us forgiveness of our sins and eternal life through the Lord’s Supper.

One other theme we saw throughout these passages was the reality that the “new covenant” established by Jesus in the Lord’s Supper was a fulfillment of the Jewish feast of Passover. As we look back to Exodus chapter 12, God instituted a means for the Israelites to be saved from the plague that would leave each firstborn dead. The means God instituted was to sacrifice and eat a lamb, and to put the lamb’s blood on their doorposts. The flesh and blood of the lamb saved the Israelites from the plague, and the flesh and blood of Jesus saves us from our sin. During the same feast meal that Israel would eat to celebrate the Passover, Jesus gave us a new lamb to eat, and new blood to cover us... His own body and blood!

8. In your own words, describe the Lord’s Supper. Include the following:

- a. Who instituted it
- b. What physical elements are present

- c. What Jesus promises to give to us in the Lord’s Supper?

DIFFERENT NAMES FOR THE LORD’S SUPPER

One thing to note is how the Lord’s Supper goes by many different names. “The Lord’s Supper” and “Communion” are perhaps the most common to us, but our catechism refers to it as “The Sacrament of the Altar”. A couple other names many Christians use are “The Eucharist” or “The Lord’s Table”. All of these are fine names for this meal since the emphasis isn’t on what we call it, but on what Jesus is graciously giving to us through his body and blood as we eat and drink the bread and the cup.

STUDENT & PARENT QUESTIONS: *for the student and a parent to discuss and answer together*

1. Read Part V of your Catechism (p.22), “The Sacrament of the Altar” and write down either (1) one thing that is encouraging to you about the Lord’s Supper, or (2) one thing that is difficult to understand.

STUDENT & PARENT SIGNATURE:

By signing below, we affirm (1) this lesson is complete and that (2) we completed the “Student & Parent Questions” section together

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____