

GOD'S PLAN



WHY THE CHURCH?

SCAN THE QR
CODE FOR THE
FULL SERMON



WEEK 4

THE ORDINANCES OF THE CHURCH

Romans 6:1-4 & 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

This powerful exploration of the church's two sacred ordinances—baptism and the Lord's Supper—takes us on a journey from the Garden of Eden to the victory formation of Christ. We discover that these aren't dusty rituals but vibrant expressions of a living relationship with God. Baptism marks our identification with Christ's death and resurrection, showing publicly what has happened internally—we've died to our old life and risen to walk in newness. It's like receiving a wedding ring that announces to the world we're in a covenant relationship. The Lord's Supper, rooted in the Passover celebration, reminds us continually that Christ is our Passover lamb whose blood covers our transgressions. Every time we partake, we're not just remembering—we're proclaiming victory. We're preaching to ourselves that we're on the winning team, that our debt has been nailed to the cross, and that the enemy is disarmed. The beautiful truth is that while sin entered through eating from the forbidden tree, redemption comes through eating at the Lord's table. These ordinances aren't about achieving salvation but celebrating the salvation we already possess, reminding us that Christ lives in us and we are sealed in Him, seated with Him in heavenly places, victorious even while the clock is still ticking on earth.

DAY 1: Buried and Raised with Christ

Reading:

Romans 6:1-4

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? 2 May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it? 3 Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

Devotional:

Baptism is more than a ritual; it is a powerful declaration of your identity in Christ. Just as Jesus died, was buried, and rose again, so have you spiritually. The old you, enslaved to sin, has been buried. The new you has been raised to walk in newness of life. This is not about trying harder to be good; it is about recognizing that Christ now lives in you. Today, reflect on what it means that you have died to your old way of living. What patterns, habits, or identities need to stay buried? You are not who you once were. Walk in the freedom and power of your resurrection life, knowing that the same Spirit who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you.

DAY 2: Sealed in Him

Reading:

Ephesians 1:13-14

13 In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.

Colossians 2:9-12

9 For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form, 10 and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority; 11 and in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ; 12 having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

Devotional:

When you believed the gospel, something extraordinary happened: you were sealed with the Holy Spirit. This seal is God's guarantee that you belong to Him. You are no longer "in Adam," subject to death and separation from God. You are now "in Christ," sharing in His authority, His victory, and His eternal life. Just as a package is sealed to protect its contents, you are sealed in Christ, secure in your relationship with the Father. The Holy Spirit within you is your constant companion, guide, and comforter. Today, thank God for sealing you in Christ. Let this truth anchor you when doubts arise or when the enemy whispers lies about your standing before God. You are secure, loved, and complete in Him.

DAY 3: Christ Our Passover

Reading:

1 Corinthians 5:7

7 Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Christ our Passover also has been sacrificed.

Exodus 12:13

13 The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and when I see the blood I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

Devotional:

In the Old Testament, the blood of the Passover lamb protected God's people from judgment. Today, Christ is our Passover Lamb. His blood covers you, ensuring that the judgment you deserved has passed over you. This is not because you are worthy, but because Jesus took your place. The cross was not Plan B; it was God's eternal plan to redeem you. When you take communion, you remember this stunning reality: Jesus willingly shed His blood so you could have eternal life. Today, pause and consider the magnitude of this sacrifice. Let gratitude fill your heart. Confess any sin that weighs on you, knowing that His blood has already covered it. Live in the freedom of forgiveness, not in guilt or shame.

DAY 4: All Transgressions Forgiven

Reading:

Colossians 2:13-15

13 When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, 14 having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. 15 When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.

Devotional:

The enemy loves to remind you of your failures, your past, your weaknesses. He wants you to believe that your transgressions disqualify you from God's love. But Scripture declares a different truth: God has forgiven you of all your transgressions. Not some. Not most. All. Jesus took the certificate of debt that stood against you and nailed it to the cross. The judgment you deserved fell on Him. Today, the enemy is disarmed. He has no legal right to accuse you. Yes, you still stumble. Yes, you still sin. But your standing before God is not based on your performance; it is based on Christ's finished work. Today, reject the lies of condemnation. Stand firm in the truth that you are fully forgiven and deeply loved.

DAY 5: Proclaiming Victory Until He Comes

Reading:

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

23 For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread; 24 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." 25 In the same way He took the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." 26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

Devotional:

Every time you take the Lord's Supper, you are preaching a sermon. You proclaim Christ's death and His victory until He returns. This is not a mournful remembrance; it is a declaration of triumph. Jesus has won. Death has been defeated. The enemy has lost. And because you are in Christ, His victory is yours. You are in victory formation. The clock is still ticking, and the enemy still tries to disrupt, but the outcome is already decided. Today, live in light of this reality. Do not be discouraged by the battles you face. Jesus has already secured the win. Walk with confidence, knowing that nothing can separate you from His love. Keep your eyes fixed on Him, and remember: He is coming back to bring you home. Until then, live victoriously.