

The Lord Jesus gave two ordinances to edify His churches. We will look at the second which is the Lord's Supper

Lord's Supper – An ordinance with bread and cup (juice) shared within His church for the purpose of commemorating His sufferings and death.

Key verse: Matthew 26:26-27 "And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. (v.27) And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it;"

Matthew 26:26 "And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and **gave it to the disciples**, and said, Take, eat; this is my body." – The Lord gave this to His disciples. They were gathered and were all baptized disciples and members of His church. The Lord's Supper is only for church members. The disciples (presumed to be church members) are commanded to observe the Lord's supper. "**Take**" and "**eat**" and in v.27, "**Drink**" are commands.

Luke 22:19-20 "And he took **bread**, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my **body** which is given for you: **this do in remembrance of me**. (v.20) Likewise also the **cup** after supper, saying, This **cup** is the new testament in my **blood**, which is shed for you." – the bread (which had to have been unleavened bread, since this was following the Passover meal) symbolizes the Lord's body. The cup (or the contents of the cup, which is juice, again, no leaven) symbolizes His blood. This is for a memorial.

1 Corinthians 11:23-32 "For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: (v.24) And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. (v.25) After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. (v.26) For as **often** as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. (v.27) Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, **unworthily**, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. (v.28) But let a man **examine himself**, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. (v.29) For he that eateth and drinketh **unworthily**, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. (v.30) For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep. (v.31) **For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged**. (v.32) But when we are judged, we are **chastened of the Lord**, that we should not be condemned with the world." – The Lord's Supper is to be observed by the church though its frequency is not regulated. The worthy observance of the Lord's Supper has to do with each church member's self-examination. God judges the willfully sinning church member for participating unworthily. Helpful self-examination questions: Am I saved? Is there any known sin in my life with which I have not dealt? What does God approve of or disapprove of in my life? Have I sinned against a fellow disciple within the fellowship of the church? What have I been doing to serve the Lord? What more can I do for the Lord that will not take away from what I am already doing for the Lord? What am I involved with that I need to stop in order to better serve the Lord? What place does God have in my life? Do I have any ill feelings towards others? Am I in fellowship with the Lord?

Matthew 26:29 "But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." – We look forward to a future fellowship with our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ – who died, was buried, arose, and is coming again.