



Week 2

Sermon Series: Rich Spiritual Worship

Sermon Title: "Meeting For Good"

Sermon Text: 1 Corinthians 11:17-22

Study Handout Week of: September 12, 2021

Group Week of: September 19, 2021

Sermon Date: September 26, 2021

Scriptures for Additional Daily Studies

Day 1	Divisions – 1 Corinthians 1:10-17
Day 2	The Last Supper – Matthew 26:17-30
Day 3	Love – John 15:9-17
Day 4	Kindness & Faith – James 2:1-13
Day 5	Sharing – Acts 2:42-47

The Text

- 1) **Read** the text slowly and carefully.
- 2) **Pray** for understanding, insight, and transformation.
- 3) **Observe Everything.** Use pens and highlighters to mark the text. Come up with your own system of symbols, underlines, arrows, highlights, and notes, that will *help you understand and apply*. Only do what is helpful.
- 4) **Answer** the interpretive questions at the bottom.

¹⁷ In the following directives I have no praise for you, for your meetings do more harm than good. ¹⁸ In the first place, I hear that when you come together as a church, there are divisions among you, and to some extent I believe it. ¹⁹ No doubt there have to be differences among you to show which of you have God's approval. ²⁰ So then, when you come together, it is not the Lord's Supper you eat, ²¹ for when you are eating, some of you go ahead with your own private suppers. As a result, one person remains hungry and another gets drunk. ²² Don't you have homes to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God by humiliating those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you? Certainly not in this matter!

Textual Questions

- 1) What is the message God and Paul are speaking to the Corinthians (and to you) through this passage?
- 2) Why did the gathering of the body do more harm than good?
- 3) What is Paul's biggest issue with the Corinthian practice of the Lord's Supper?

Discussion Guide Questions

- 1) Reflect for a moment upon division in the church. What is an example of a healthy division? What is an example of an unhealthy division?

- 2) If division is going to be “healthy” then the reason for it must be love of God and love for the body. Have you ever been in a situation where loving God and others divided you from another person who claimed to be a Christian? If so, write out your story and what you learned from it below.

- 3) Paul says that the church must have some “division” (the NIV uses the word “differences” instead of “division” in verse 19, but this is not a good translation). The division separates those who do and do not have God’s approval. What have you seen God use in your life, or in your church, to separate the wheat from the chaff, to separate those who are His true followers from those who are not?

- 4) The Corinthians aren’t experiencing healthy division. Instead, during the Lord’s supper, there is a division between those who can afford to bring food and those who cannot. Where have you seen the division between the rich and the poor show up in the church? If not over food, what do we get divided over?

- 5) The Christians who were unwilling to share their food with their poorer brothers and sisters were clearly consumed by selfishness. Where does division lead to selfishness in the church today? Consider areas such as music in worship, dress, culture, etc.

- 6) Have you ever avoided fellowship with someone in church? Have you ever been on one side of a “division” and stayed there without doing anything to change the situation? If so, why? What caused those divisions, and why did you stay in that divide without changing things?

- 7) When we put ourselves first, divisions in the body will inevitably form. To have true and genuine fellowship, we must put others before ourselves. Where is God calling you to put others before yourself on Sunday morning? Write out your answer below. Share it with your group. Then pray for one another to follow God faithfully in this area.

- 8) Where do you see division on Sunday Morning at West Side Church? Pray for those things this week as a life group. Pray for unity, for love, and for a willingness across the whole body to put one another first.