



### Week 3

Sermon Series: Rich Spiritual Worship

Sermon Title: *"Create In Me A Pure Heart"*

Sermon Text: 1 Corinthians 11:23-34

Study Handout Week of: September 19, 2021

Group Week of: September 26, 2021

Sermon Date: October 3, 2021

### Scriptures for Additional Daily Studies

Day 1	The Passover – Exodus 12:14-30
Day 2	The New Covenant – Jeremiah 31:30-34
Day 3	His Body Broken – Isaiah 53:1-12
Day 4	Living in a Worthy Manner – Phil 1:27-30
Day 5	Examining the Heart – Psalm 139:1-24

### 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.

<sup>26</sup> For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

<sup>27</sup> So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. <sup>28</sup> Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup. <sup>29</sup> For those who eat and drink without discerning the body of Christ eat and drink judgment on themselves. <sup>30</sup> That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep. <sup>31</sup> But if we were more discerning with regard to ourselves, we would not come under such judgment. <sup>32</sup> Nevertheless, when we are judged in this way by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be finally condemned with the world.

### Textual Questions

- 1) What is the message God and Paul are speaking to the Corinthians (and to you) through this passage?
- 2) What is the relationship between taking communion in an unworthy manner and self-examination?
- 3) What is the relationship between taking communion and discerning the body?

## Discussion Guide Questions

- 1) When you take communion, what do you think about? Does it affect your week? What is the effect upon your heart? Record your answers to those questions below.
- 2) Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-26. Jesus tells us that we take communion “in remembrance of Him” and Paul says that the act is to “proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.” Let us also remember what Paul wrote about in chapter 10:16-17, that communion is a “participation” in the sacrifice of Christ.
  - i. What does *remembering* do to us when we really apply our hearts to this act?
  - ii. What does *proclaiming* the death of Christ actually look like in life?
  - iii. What does *participating* with Christ’s sacrifice do to your heart and soul?
- 3) The Corinthians experienced harm rather than good when they had communion. What sorts of harm do you see come from their practices in verses 17-32? What things did they do that led to communion becoming more harmful than good?
- 4) First, Paul tells them to examine themselves before taking communion. We aren’t expected to be sinless before taking communion, so what is the purpose of self-examination? How does this practice help us to keep communion an edifying and God-honoring act?
- 5) Next Paul tells the Corinthians to discern the body. While there is much division on what it means to “discern” it is probably best to see this as recognizing 1) The significance of Christ’s body broken for sin, 2) The “body” of souls that Christ died for, and 3) The need to be in right relationship with the body (people) when we take the bread which symbolizes the body (Christ’s) broken for us. What should you do on Sunday Morning during communion if there is another believer you are not in right relationship with?
- 6) We will have communion this Sunday. Is there anyone you need to reconcile with before Sunday morning? You may need to ask forgiveness, or you may need to confront someone who has wronged. If you can, share who you will reach out to with your life group. Ask them to pray for you, for God to go before you, and for unity to be restored before communion on Sunday.
- 7) Communion is so important that some of the Corinthians had gotten sick and even died under God’s disciplining hand. What is God calling you to do this week so that you can take communion in a worthy manner this Sunday? Write it out here. Commit to it, and ask your life group for accountability.