

# TALKING POINTS

## PRIORITIES - COMMUNION

### LEANING IN

As believers, we partake in Communion, because Jesus made it a PRIORITY. That said, it's important to know what communion is, but also, what it is about communion we need to REMEMBER.

In the Old Testament when God used Moses to deliver the people from Egyptian slavery and bondage, the last plague was the angel of death that would kill the first born. So, God commanded His people to sacrifice a lamb and spread its blood on the doorposts and when the angel of death came. If the blood was on the doorposts, the angel would PASS OVER that house. Since then, each year, the Jews would get together for Passover to remember how God delivered them.

Jesus is with his disciples and says, "you need to do this in remembrance of Me." Remembrance (anamnesis in the Greek) is *not* a word which means, "in memory of," it means recalling a very real experience so deep we *feel* it. When we take communion, we are to humbly and prayerfully remember what Jesus did for us on the cross. His body, His blood, shed for *our* sins.

Read Deuteronomy 8:11-14, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Based on your personal experience, do you believe you understand Communion? How should we approach it?

### LIVING IT OUT

As we remember what Jesus has done in our life and what we've experienced walking with Him (anamnesis), these are things that communion encourages us to REMEMBER:

**We Cannot Save Ourselves** - the Christian life isn't hard or difficult. It's IMPOSSIBLE. God isn't saying you can do it. He's saying you *can't do it*, which is why you need Jesus. It's humbling to hear, but essential to remember.

Read Romans 5:6-8, Romans 7:21-25

Why is the Christian life *impossible*?

**Jesus Delivered Us From Sin** - even though our sin is wretched, WE MUST REMEMBER that our God is gracious. We live in victory, not defeat because *He has delivered us from ALL our sins*.

Read 1 John 1:9, Ephesians 1:7

Have you ever struggled to believe God would forgive you? How do you combat it?

**We Must Love One Another** - in a world so divided, communion teaches us something so important Jesus prioritizes it to be remembered. A DIVIDED world *needs* a UNITED Church. How we love each other reflects God's love for all of us.

Read John 13:34-35, 1 John 4:7

In these divisive times, what actions can you take to show unity and love with your brothers and sisters in Christ?

**How Much God Loves Us** - It's not a matter of how much *you love God*, but rather, realizing how much *God loves you*. God loves you more than you can possibly imagine. He doesn't love you based upon your performance. There is nothing you can do to cause God to love you any more than *He already does*.

Read Romans 8:37-39, Ephesians 3:16-19

How would you describe God's love to a person who doesn't know God?