

SS lesson for Sept. 14, 08 (Student Guide)

Practicing our Faith – The Lord’s Supper

Lesson Scope

Luke 22:14-20, 28-30, Acts 2:43-47

Focus

Summary from the *Confession of Faith*

We believe that the Lord’s Supper is a sign by which the church remembers the new covenant which Jesus established by his death. Members share in a common meal and renew that covenant with God and others. It is also a participation in the life of Jesus Christ and proclaiming his death until he comes.

In this sharing of the bread and cup, we remember Jesus’ shed blood, God’s act of deliverance in raising Jesus from the dead, and thankfully relive this event. We also acknowledge God’s forgiveness and grace in our lives. As a body of believers, we recognize that Christ is present in our lives and life is sustained by him.

As followers of Christ, we commit ourselves to the way of the cross. We renew our baptismal covenant and recognize our unity with all believers. In this way, the church looks forward in joy and hope to the feast with Christ in the age to come.

“All are invited to the Lord’s table who have been baptized into the community of faith, are living at peace with God and with their brothers and sisters in the faith, and are willing to be accountable in their congregation.” (p. 50)

Explore

What are your experiences with the Lord’s Supper (Communion)? Check all that apply.

- a sense of awe about what is happening
- puzzled by what it means
- wanting something more spiritual to happen
- to be honest, a little bored
- thankfulness for what God has done
- other:

Life application

Questions for discussion

- What is the new covenant that we renew in communion?
- The early church celebrated communion every Lord’s day or daily. What would it mean to take communion daily?
- How seriously do we take our relationship with others before taking communion?
Should there be more preparation time for confessing and reconciliation?
- If one component of communion is a renewing of our baptismal vow to follow Jesus, how is our faith shaped by that?
- What does it mean to have an “open table?”

Share personal stories of your experience of communion (positive or negative).