

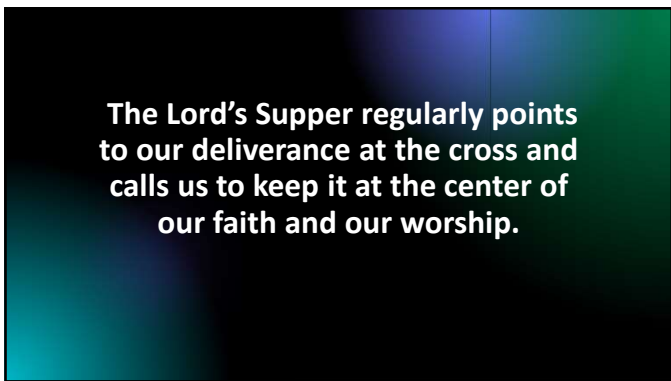
The Furnished Room:
"And he will show you a large upper room furnished; prepare it there."
LUKE 22:12

"We recognize as readers that the Passover meal of Jesus with his disciples is one of the most important events in the entire narrative."
TOM SCHREINER

Jesus is opening up everlasting table fellowship with His friends through the cross.







“For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.”

1 CORINTHIANS 11:26

“And you shall offer the Passover sacrifice to the Lord your God, from the flock or the herd, at the place that the Lord will choose, to make his name dwell there... you may not offer the Passover sacrifice within any of your towns that the Lord your God is giving you, but at the place that the Lord your God will choose, to make his name dwell in it, there you shall offer the Passover sacrifice in the evening at sunset, at the time you came out of Egypt.”

DEUTERONOMY 16:2, 5-6

“The Lord’s Supper retains ‘the threefold orientation’ to the past, present, and future as did the Passover, but it replaces the Passover for Christians. It reenacts the covenant established through Jesus’ death, reinforces the unity of believers with Christ and one another, and reminds believers of Jesus’ pledge that all will be fulfilled in the age to come.”

DAVID GARLAND

We need to regularly remind one another that the only ground on which we stand before God is the cross of Jesus Christ.

Our lives depend on a continual re-orientation upon the foundational message of the finished work of the cross

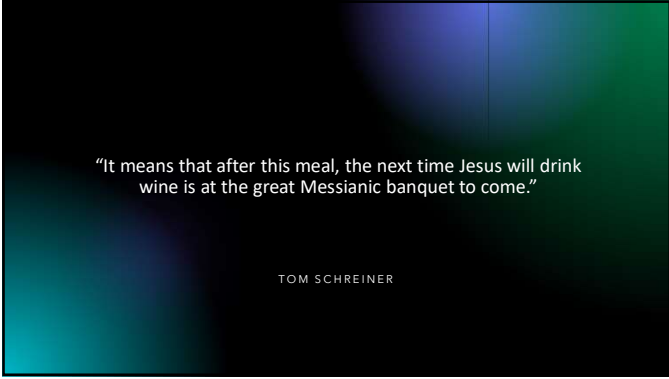
Rejoice:

The Lord's Supper anticipates a future and final feast that Jesus will eat in His eternal kingdom.

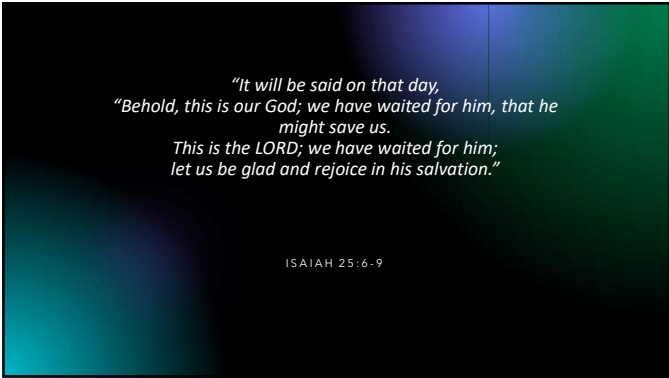
LUKE 22:14-23

“For I tell you I will not eat it (again) until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God. And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, “Take this, and divide it among yourselves. For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.”

LUKE 22:16-17







The Lord's Supper orients our heart and minds towards our eternal hope and home.

Hope is what gets us home.

Repent:

The Lord's Supper produces sobriety. It points to the incredible price of our forgiveness. It calls us to self-examination and repentance.

LUKE 22:14-23

Luke 22:19 "And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'"

Luke 22:20 "And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, 'This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.'"

“Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.”

1 CORINTHIANS 11:27-32

“Examine yourselves with the hope and the strong desire that you may be permitted to come to the table. Do not let the examination take so morbid and melancholy a form that you almost look out for causes of self-suspicion; but the rather, especially as many of you have known the Lord for years, let your examination be made in order that you may come aright to the table, that you may come there in a right spirit, and not that you may be compelled to stay away. ‘Let a man examine himself,’ and then, in the spirit of self-examination, let him eat of this bread, and drink of this cup.”

C. H. SPURGEON

Three Questions for Self-Examination:

Do I truly believe that Jesus Christ shed his blood for me and that the only hope of my salvation is His body and His blood sacrificed on the cross?

Am I genuinely humbled and amazed by the depth of His love for me such that I want to turn from my sin and seek His face by His grace and with His help? Does His kindness move me to repentance?

Am I looking to the cross and to the Christ for the power and strength to battle sin and live for holiness? Where does my help come from?

The Lord's Supper affords us the opportunity to return and to repent and to recognize our need of the always available grace of God to sinners.

We need to be continually reminded of the weight of our sin and the worth of Christ.

Resolve:

The Lord's Supper produces community. It perpetually marks out our identity as a new covenant community and shapes how we live in relationship to one another as Christians.

LUKE 22:14-23

"And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body, which is given for you. **Do this in remembrance of me.**'"

LUKE 22:19

"In contrast to all other religious communities of their time, the early church had no temple, no statues, no priests, no special cult; the only thing visible was a table with a meal around which they came every week. It was the continuation of table fellowship of Jesus, and especially on the last evening together. It was a definitive gift from God and a central manifestation of the truth the church brought to the world."

EDUARD SCHWEIZER

"When you come together, it is not the Lord's supper that you eat. For in eating, each one goes ahead with his own meal. One goes hungry, another gets drunk. What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I commend you in this? No, I will not."

1 CORINTHIANS 11:20-22

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another."

JOHN 13:34

The Lord's Supper reminds us that we belong to the community of the redeemed.

We have a new commandment that creates a cross-shaped communion.

In the Lord's Supper, we:

- Look Back
- Look Ahead
- Look Inside
- Look Around
