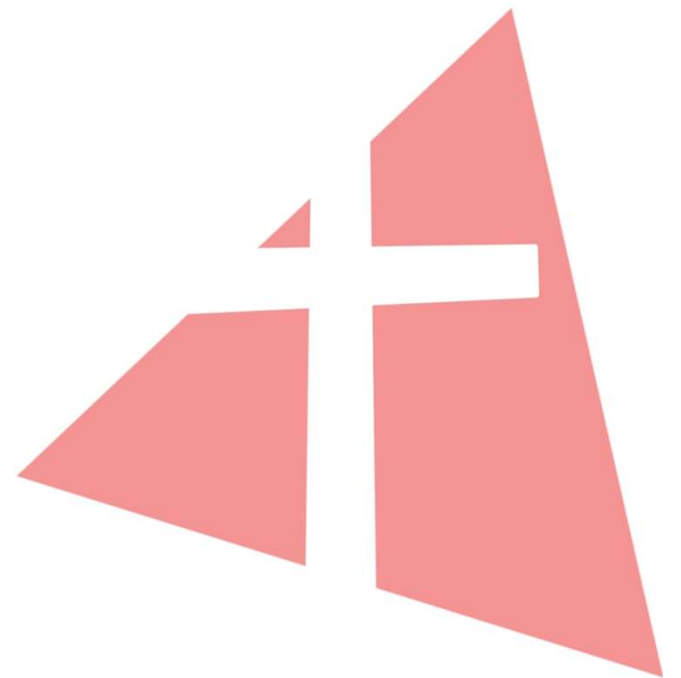


# **COMMUNION**

**November 12<sup>th</sup> 2017**



# MY STORY

- In my church as a child, Communion was a big deal



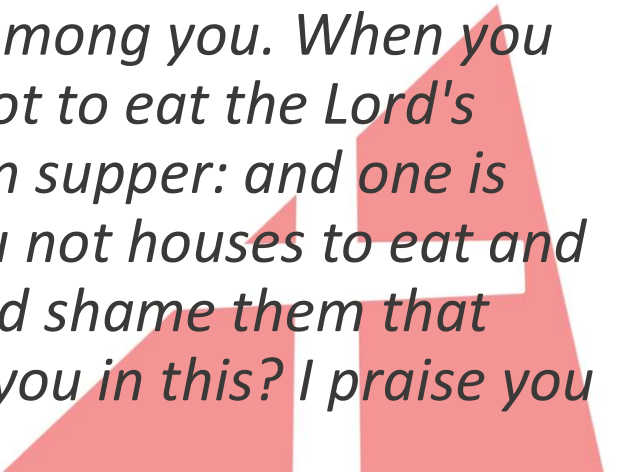
# I MISSED THE POINT

- I was looking at the ceremony, not at Jesus or at my Faith



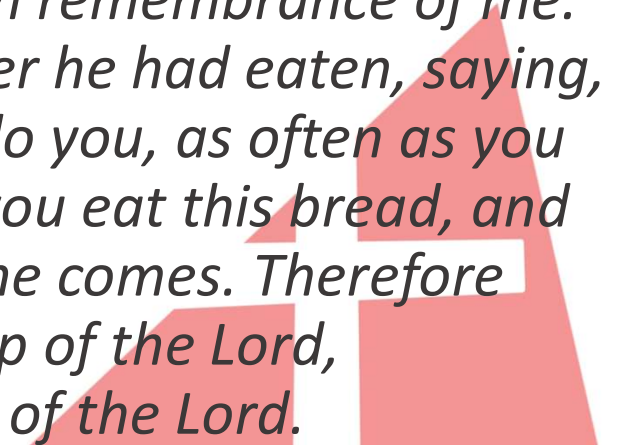
# THE BIBLE

*Now in this that I declare unto you I praise you not, that you come together not for the better, but for the worse. For first of all, when you come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it. For there must be also heresies among you, that they who are approved may be made manifest among you. When you come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord's supper. For in eating every one takes first his own supper: and one is hungry, and another is drunken. What? have you not houses to eat and to drink in? or despise you the church of God, and shame them that have not? What shall I say to you? shall I praise you in this? I praise you not.*



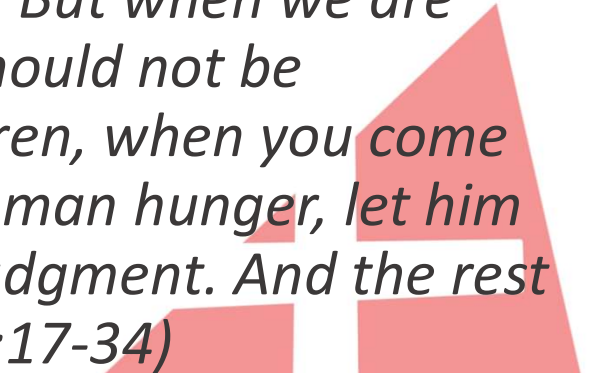
# THE BIBLE

*For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, after he had eaten, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do you, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as you eat this bread, and drink this cup, you do show the Lord's death till he comes. Therefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.*



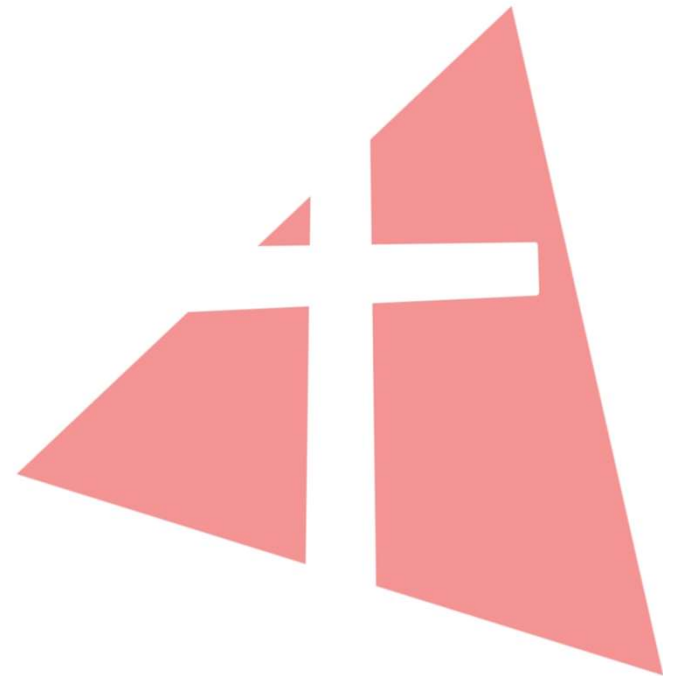
# THE BIBLE

*But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eats and drinks unworthily, eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep. For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world. Therefore, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait one for another. And if any man hunger, let him eat at home; that you come not together unto judgment. And the rest will I set in order when I come. (1 Corinthians 11:17-34)*

The image features several overlapping, semi-transparent red triangles in the bottom right corner, creating a modern, abstract graphic design element.

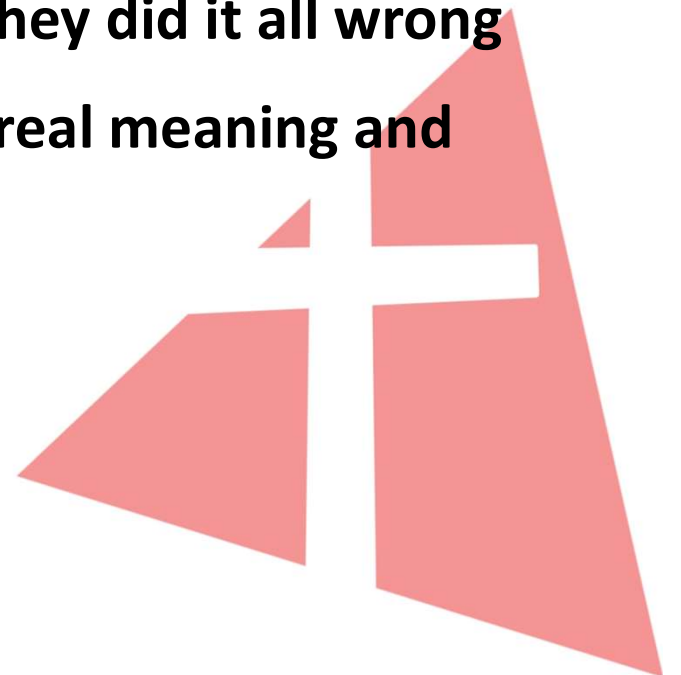
# JESUS' SITUATION

- **Jesus instituted a new sacrament**



# THE CORINTHIANS' SITUATION

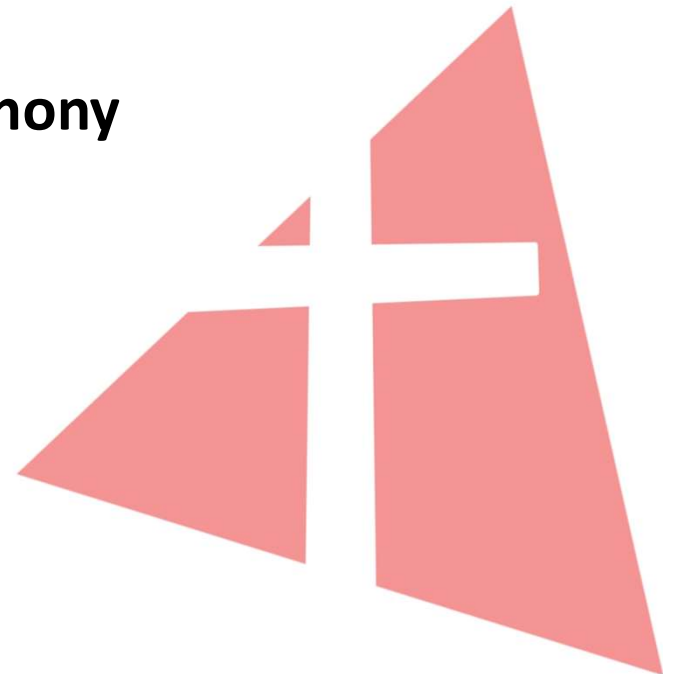
- **The Corinthians practiced Communion, but they did it all wrong**
- **Paul felt the need to bring them back to the real meaning and practice of this sacrament**





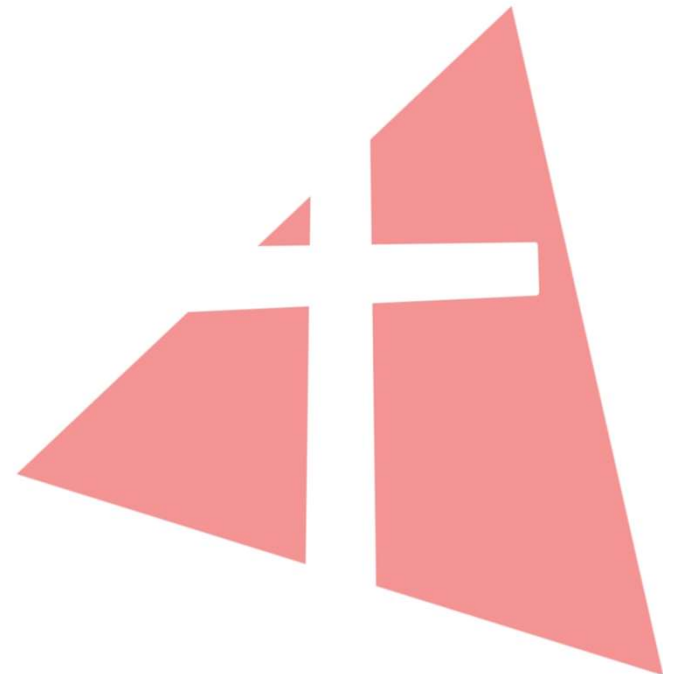
# THE CULTURAL BACKGROUND

- Jesus used the elements of a betrothal ceremony



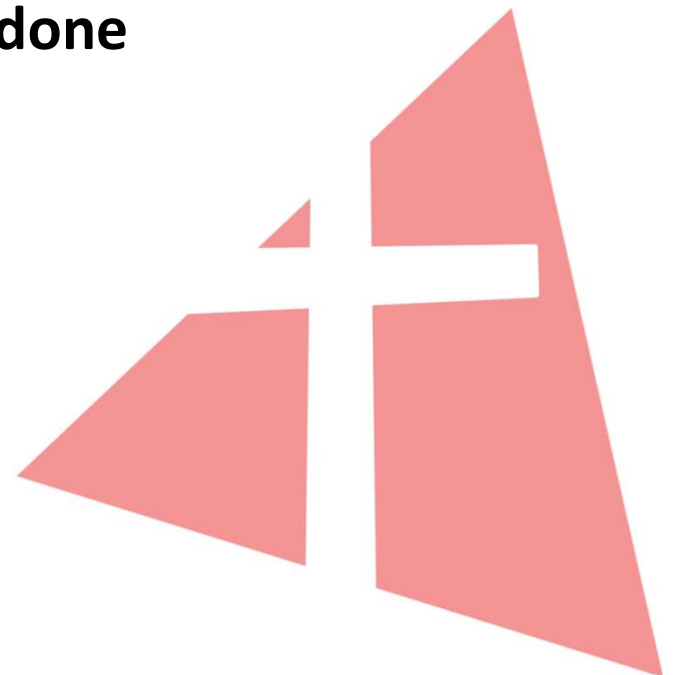
# THE KINGDOM SIGNIFICANCE

- **Meals with God**
  - In the OT
  - At Christ's return



# REMEMBERING JESUS

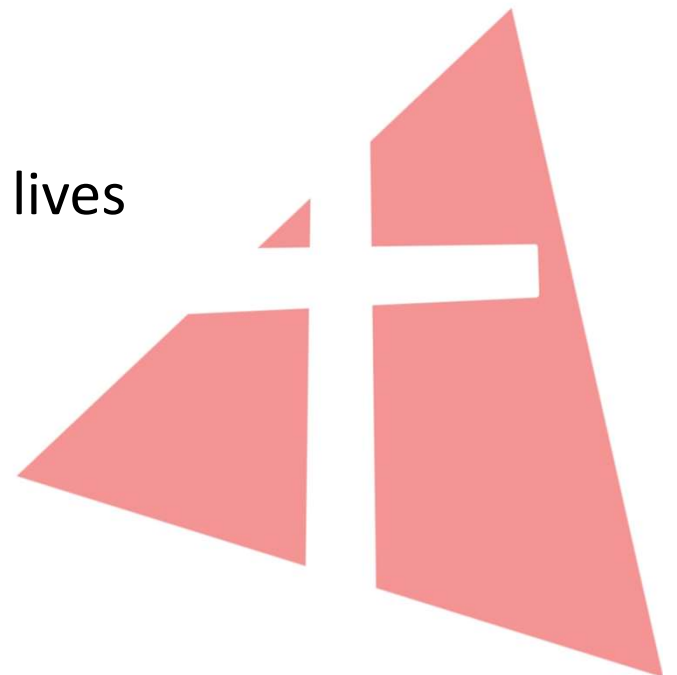
- **Looking back: Remembering what Jesus has done**
  - The Cross
  - For us



# REMEMBERING JESUS

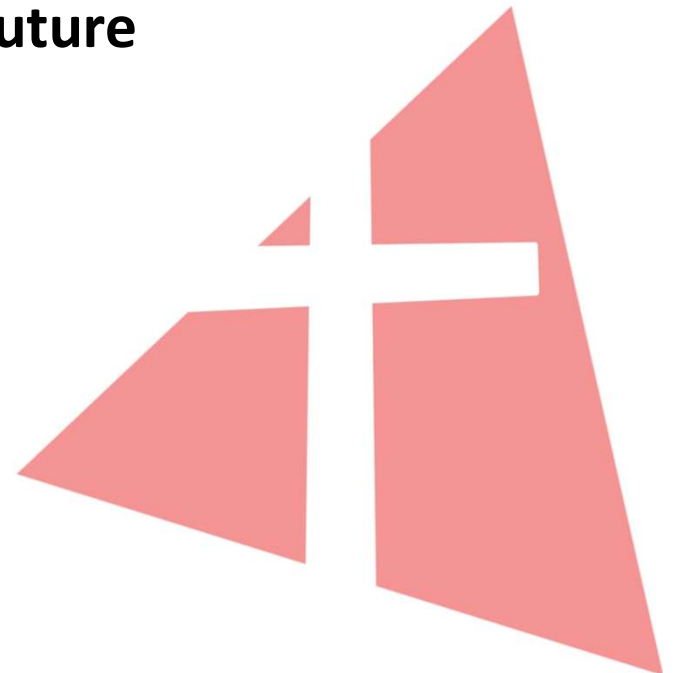
## ○ Remembering Jesus in our lives today:

- Repentance and Confession
- Remembering what we have in Christ
- Depending on Jesus in every aspect of our lives
- Spiritual nourishment



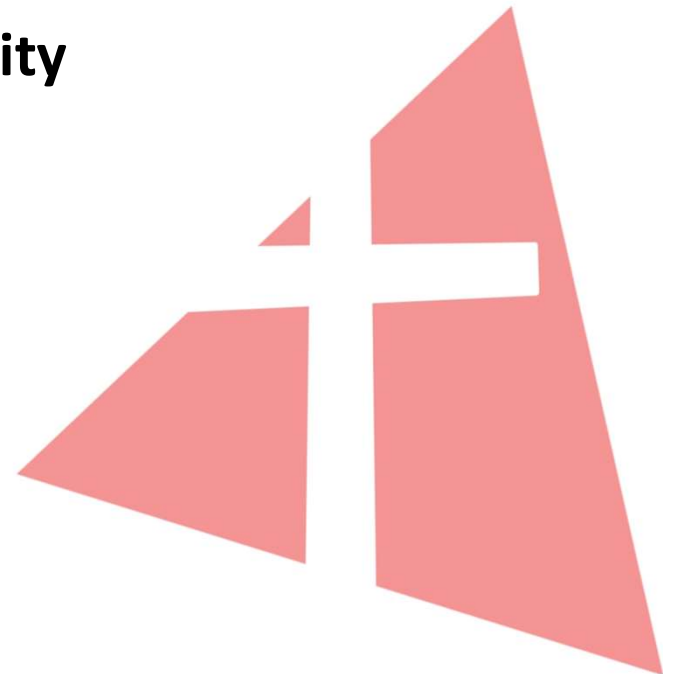
# REMEMBERING JESUS

- **Remembering what Jesus promised for our future**
  - Jesus' 2<sup>nd</sup> coming
  - The great wedding feast



# COMMUNION = COMMUNITY

- **Communion should be practiced in Community**
- **Unity of the Body of Christ**



# THE ELEMENTS

- **The Body**

- We are now the Body of Christ, continuing His mission

- **The blood**

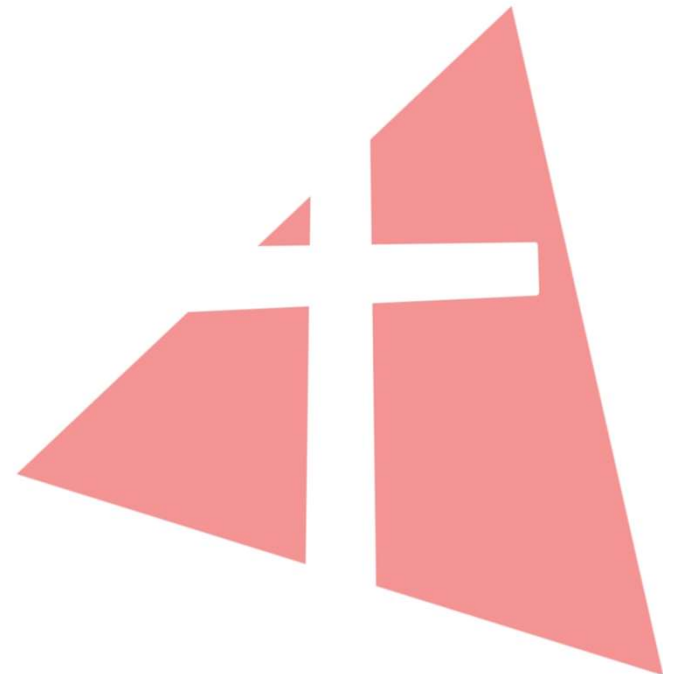
- We are being cleansed by the blood



# JESUS' BODY AND PRESENCE

## ○ Different theories

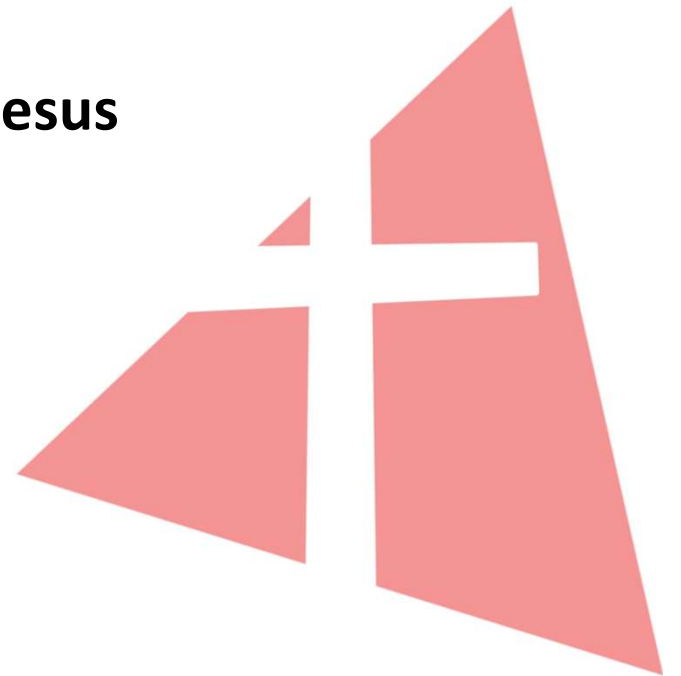
- Transubstantiation
- In, With and Under
- Symbolic and Spiritual Presence of Christ





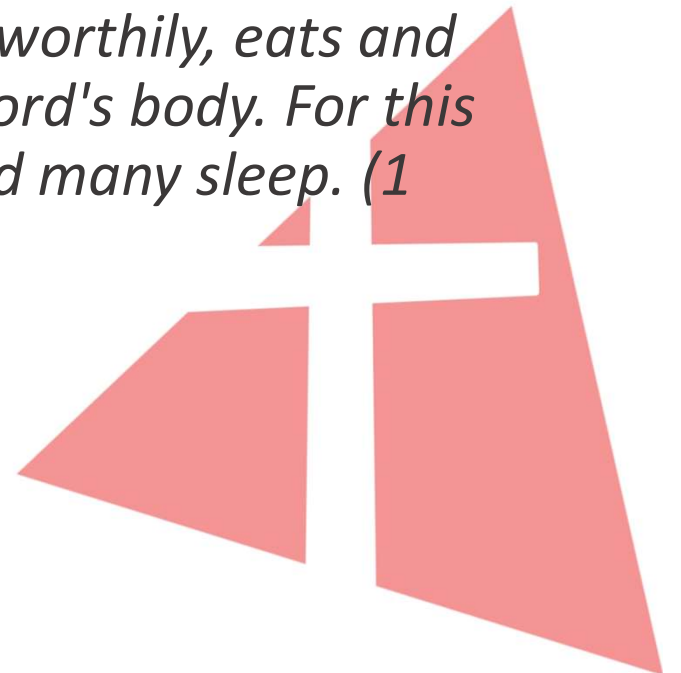
# AN ACT OF FAITH

- **Communion is an expression of our Faith in Jesus**



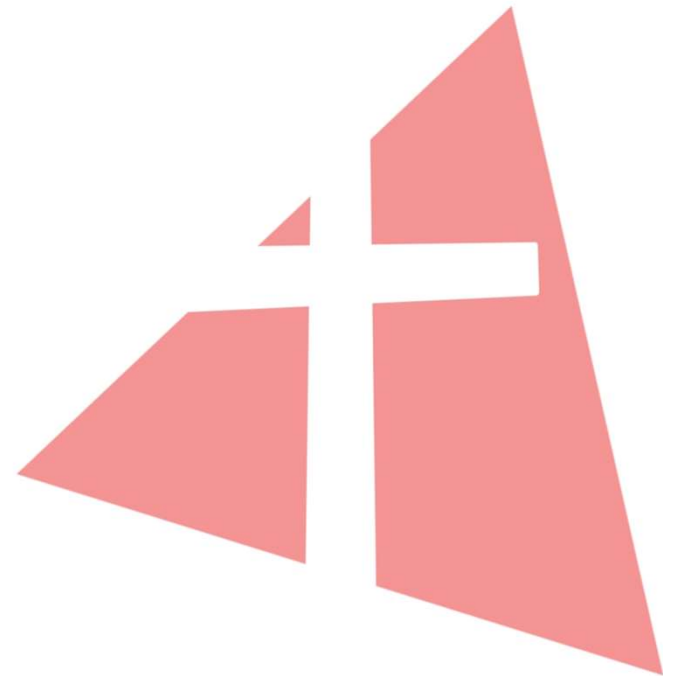
# WHO SHOULD (NOT) PARTICIPATE?

*But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eats and drinks unworthily, eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep. (1 Corinthians 11:28-30 )*



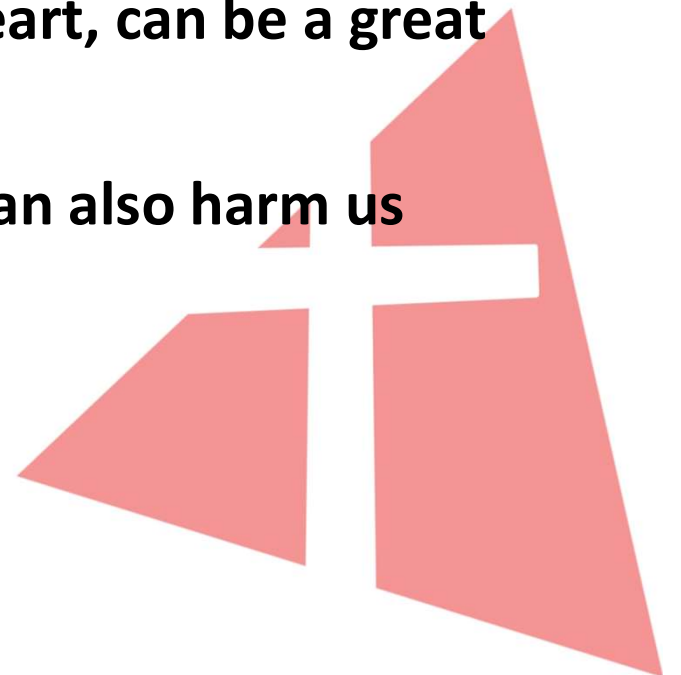
# WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE

- **Believers**
- **After a time of self-examination**



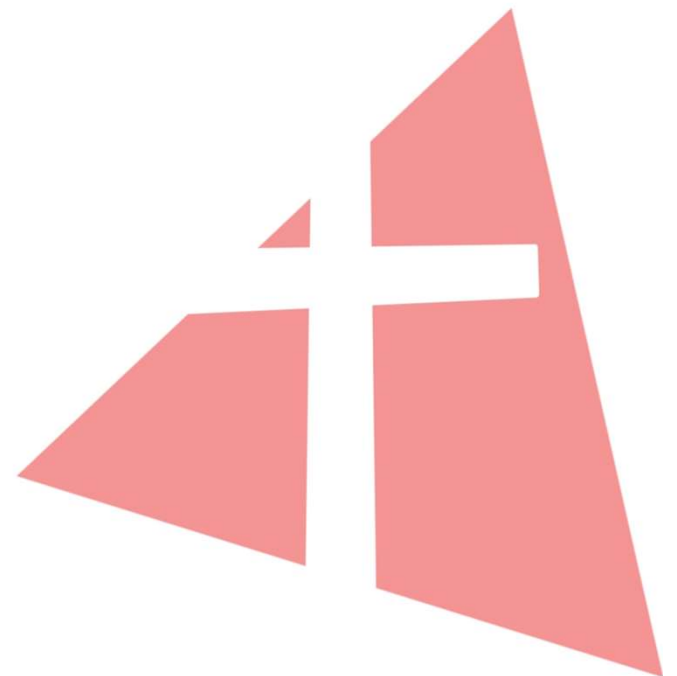
# IT'S YOUR DECISION

- **Communion taken by Faith, with the right heart, can be a great blessing**
- **Communion taken in an unworthy manner can also harm us**



# SELF EXAMINATION

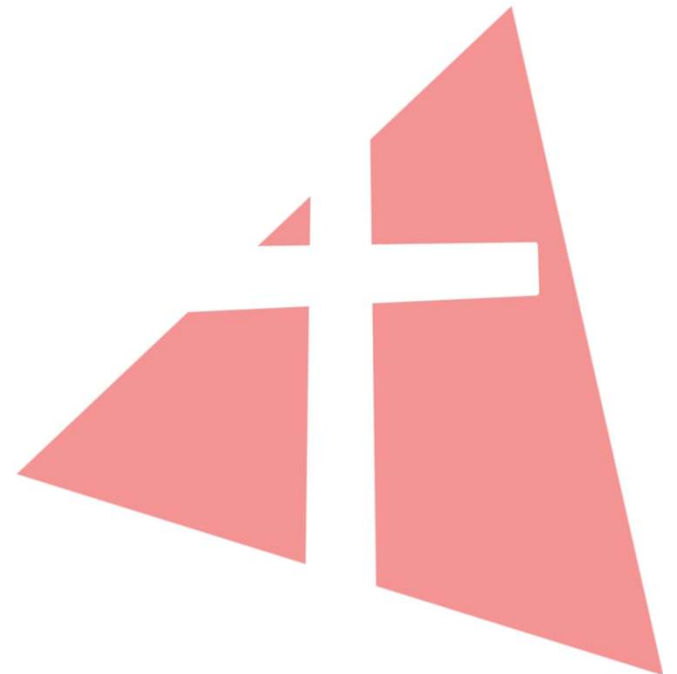
- Remembering the price Jesus paid



# SELF EXAMINATION

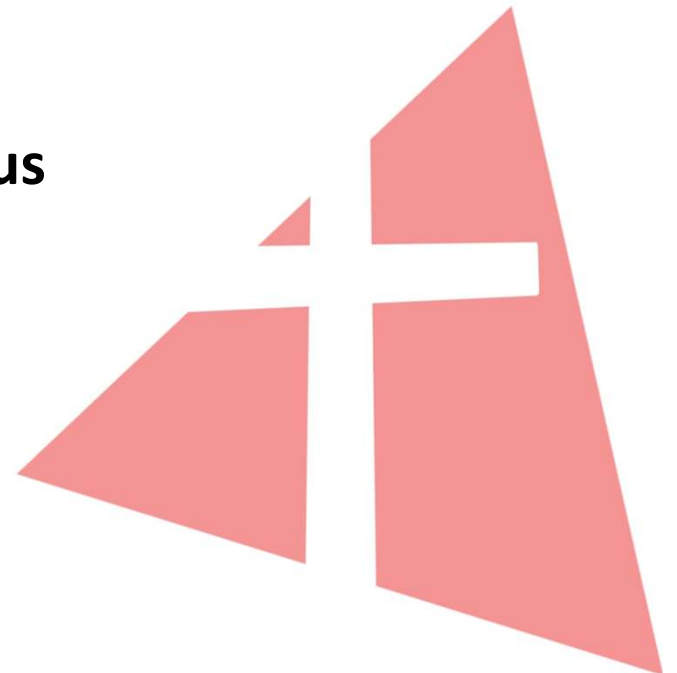
- **Sin**

- Things that stand between us and God
- Broken relationships



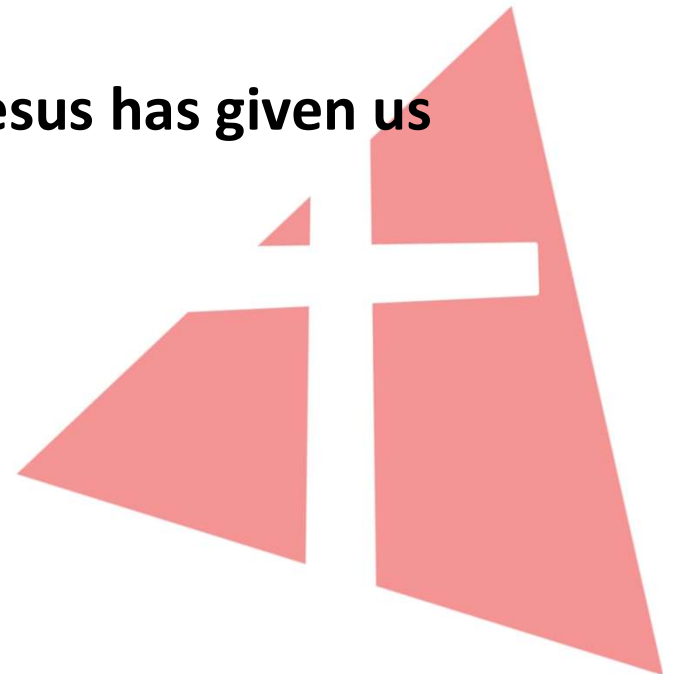
# SELF EXAMINATION

- Remembering the blessings that Jesus is offering us today
- Remembering and Seeking Jesus' love
- Surrendering every aspect of our lives to Jesus



# SELF EXAMINATION

- Remembering the hope of eternal life that Jesus has given us





# EXAMINE YOURSELF!

## ○ Examining our Faith

- Remembering the price Jesus paid
- Sin/Confession/Repentance
- Remembering the blessings Jesus is offering us today
- Remembering the hope and assurance for our future

## ○ Allowing God to take us deeper in any or all of these areas



# *Communion*

Remembering His sacrifice.

