

Communion

In the early church, communion was part of the love feast held by house churches. When a house church would gather, the common meal began with the breaking of bread and closed with the passing of the cup. Thus, the love feast began and ended with a reminder that the life of the church was in Jesus.

Purpose of Communion

- Remembering Jesus' death. (1 Cor. 11:24-25)
- Recognizing that we are one body in Christ. (1 Cor. 10:16-17)
- Declaring the death of Jesus to the world. (1 Cor. 11:26)

Preparation for Communion

- Gather the elements for Communion (bread/cracker and wine/juice)
- Perhaps sing or listen to a song that prepares the House Church (HC)
- Read a passage of Scripture at the beginning to help the church focus on Jesus.

Practicing Communion

- Read a passage of Scripture. (1 Cor. 11:23-26 or a passage from the Gospels that narrates the Last Supper)
- Briefly explain the meaning of communion.
 - See the purpose of communion above.
 - Explain the symbolism of the bread/cracker and wine/juice.
- Ask someone to lead a prayer of thanksgiving.
- Pass the bread/cracker and wine/juice out to eat and drink together.
- Consider having each participant share a favorite memory of Jesus from the Gospels.