

The background of the cover is a close-up of weathered wood, showing vertical grain and various textures. A thick, horizontal band of dark red paint is applied across the middle, with some areas where the paint is chipped or worn, revealing the underlying wood. The word "Communion" is written in a white, elegant cursive font, centered over the red band.

Communion

The Clearpoint Guide to Observing the Lord's Supper

Communion

Some of the most meaningful times of worship for me have been in gatherings where we have observed the ordinance of the Lord's Supper (communion). The method by which we partake together at Clearpoint Church is really special, allowing each person to pause, examine themselves, spend time in prayer, repentance, and confession, followed by partaking of the elements alone or with a group of friends, family or members of a Life Group.

The most impactful communion experience I have ever experienced took place soon after coming to Clearpoint Church to serve as Pastor. It happened in a small group gathering, in a home. I was overcome with emotion as we worshiped together, read scripture and shared testimonies of how the Lord had impacted our lives. It was a beautiful time of sharing, remembering and celebrating Christ - TOGETHER! Thus, the term "Communion." It was a glorious expression of what a genuine communion experience should embody! It was powerful!

Communion (The Lord's Supper) is a special time of commemoration – for believers to remember the death of Christ. Traditionally, the church (Clearpoint included) has observed communion in a large worship gathering on Sundays, Good Friday gatherings, Easter Celebrations, Christmas Eve services and various other times of the year. Regardless of how frequently we partake of Communion, it is such a powerful interaction with God and fellow believers, that it must be observed with humility, openness, and reverence, remembering "as often as we do it" what He did and testifying to the work He is still doing in us!

This guide provides a list of practical tips for Preparing and Sharing Communion as a family or in a small group gathering.

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "Benjamin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'B'.

Preparing Communion

Practical Tips for Preparing Communion

1. Prepare the elements simply, sacredly, and symbolically.

2. Use small servings of bread and grape juice. Break up pieces of bread such as crackers, pita bread or French bread on a small plate or tray.

3. Be sensitive to timing in your meeting. Have all of the elements prepared beforehand and bring them into the room or to the table when you are ready.

**Communion passages: Matthew 26:26-29, Mark 14:22-25, Luke 22:14-20, 1 Corinthians 10:16-21, or 1 Corinthians 11:17-34.*

Sharing Communion

One: Share Stories

The story of your personal experience with Christ is powerful! Out of the context of your own experience, say something brief about God's love, forgiveness, grace, mercy, commitment, tenderheartedness, or faithfulness. If you prefer, you can write down ahead of time what you want to say. Consider allowing others to share as well.

Two: Spend time in Personal Prayer and Reflection.

Prayer and reflection should include meditation on Christ, His sacrifice and His gift of salvation.

Reflection should be a time of examining your own heart about your own faith and salvation, asking the Holy Spirit to reveal areas of unbelief, unknown sin, unconfessed sin, bitterness/unforgiveness, etc. and spending time in conversation and confession with God.

Consider II Corinthians 11:27-32

Therefore, whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸ But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹ For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. ³⁰ For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep. ³¹ For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. ³² But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world. (NKJ)

Once everyone has completed the time of examination, proceed to step three.

Three: In the group, read 1 Corinthians 11:23-26:

The Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; ²⁴ and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." ²⁵ In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes. (NKJ)

Four: Distribute the bread around the circle (to all who are observing).

While the bread is being passed, you may want to reflect quietly, sing a simple praise song, or listen appropriate worship music.

Five: When everyone has received the bread...

Remind them that this bread represents Jesus’ body which was broken for us. Simply state, “Jesus said, ‘Do this in remembrance of me.’ Let us eat together.” Then eat the bread as a group.

Six: Serve the cup.

Distribute the cups to all who will be observing. You may pass a small tray, serve people individually, or have them pick up a cup from the table.

Seven: When everyone has been served...

Remind them that the cup represents Jesus' blood shed on the Cross. Simply state, "The cup of the new covenant is Jesus Christ's blood shed for you. Jesus said, 'Do this in remembrance of me.' Let us drink together." Then drink the juice as a group.

Five: Conclusion

As you conclude this time together, remind everyone of the gift of God's grace through the shed blood of Jesus. Sing a simple song, listen to a praise song, or having a time of prayer and giving thanks to God.
