

BETHEL BIBLE CHURCH**6966 West SR 14****Winamac, IN 46996**

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THE BETHEL CONNECTION

October 28, 2020

Preparing for the Lord's Supper – Why Do We Do This?

Imagine being a child growing up in a home many centuries ago. Once a year your family gathers with others to celebrate their religion by killing a lamb and spreading the blood around the door of your house. As you get older you ask your parents, what does this mean or why do we do this (Exodus 12:26)?

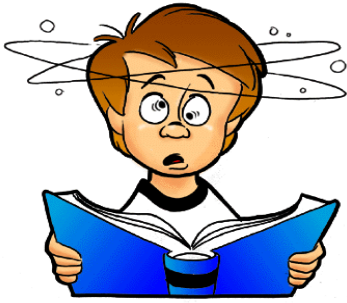
Fast forward to the first Sunday of the month at Bethel Bible Church. What a great question from a child or a guest. Looking around they see people sipping and swallowing, some with heads bowed, some with eyes closed and some looking around as if to say – ‘is that white wafer like thing really Styrofoam?’ So, the question comes forth . . . What does this mean? Why do we do this? Just like Moses gave instructions to explain the Passover to the coming generations, how we practice and explain the Lord's Supper is a crucial part of helping communicate the gospel to our children (Exodus 12:21-28).

You could shape your answer in many ways. One helpful way is to put the Lord's Supper in the context of the other church celebration, baptism. Baptism is a person going public with their profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. In baptism, the symbolism of going under the water and coming out is that of union with Jesus in his death, burial and resurrection. At baptism, the person is officially and publicly announcing “I am a follower of Jesus with these his people.”

When we celebrate the Lord's Supper (communion, the Lord's table), we are renewing our pledge of allegiance to Christ and his people. Remembering Jesus means to recall and retell, using the symbols of the bread and cup, the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection in such a way that each person relives it and renews their hope in it. At communion, the person is officially and publicly announcing “After reviewing the good news of Jesus, I renew my vows of commitment to Christ, his word and his people.”

Consequently, the Lord's Supper is reserved for only those who profess faith in Christ. Jesus commanded his followers to remember him in this way. So, why do we do this? To review the good news of forgiveness that Jesus provides through his death and resurrection. To renew our commitment to and hope in Christ – which includes admitting and confessing our sin. To rejoice in the blessings of serving Christ together in our church fellowship. We gather around the Lord's Table to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Basic Bible Study Skills



Our next Wednesday Family Night class for adults will be focused on how to study our Bibles. The Bible is clear and understandable. Too often we think of Bible study as a book or video of someone teaching us what the Bible says rather than finding out on our own what the Bible says. This class will teach bible study skills and practice these skills together in class. If you would like to grow in your use and understanding of your Bible, this class will help you do that

HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

- **Simple Supper/Family Night Wednesday, October 28**
 - **Simple Supper this week will be Chicken Noodle Soup or Taco Soup, salad, roll, dessert & bottled water**
- **Sunday, November 1, worship service @ 9:15 am, Junior Church & Nursery will be available**
- **Sunday, November 1, worship service @ 11:15 am; Nursery will be available**
- **Drive-in option will be available at BOTH services**

Bethel Prayer Concerns

- **Continue in prayer for David Gagnon and his family at the passing of his step-father.**
- Please continue in prayer for Brad Garling. Brad will begin treatments soon. Pray for strength both physically and spiritually during this season.
- **Ask God to bless our church with the spiritual fruit of conversions and growth. We are seeing good attendance at our children and teen ministries on Family night. Pray for our teachers, workers and young people that God would bless the ministry of his word.**
- Pray for our Associate Pastor search process. The McKays, Hines, Bungers and Whipples are serving as a search committee. There is a conversation that started recently with an individual. Ask God to direct our paths as we gather resumes, get to know possible candidates and discern what He would have us do in this important process.
- **Pray for our Sunday meetings that God would be pleased to refresh and renew us as a church. This Sunday we begin a new sermon series in the book of 1 Peter. On Sunday November 1st we will hear from the local Gideons ministry and celebrate around the Lord's Table.**

A note from David Gagnon:

I just wanted to send a thank you from my family to the Bethel family for the prayers and support. My step dad was a great guy and it would be much harder if I had doubts about where he would spend eternity. I have felt so much peace the past few days that I cannot explain it but I know that it comes from our Lord.



Join us this week as we celebrate the Lord's Table.

We will also be hearing about the Gideon's ministry this Sunday!



Just a friendly reminder, remember to turn those clocks back an hour Saturday evening!