

Summit Woods Baptist Church  
First Corinthians Sermon Study Equipping Class

1 Corinthians 11:27-34

❖ Day 1

Read 1 Corinthians 11:27-34. *Note that we have included last week's verses in the paragraph flow below since these two sections are so closely related.*

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the supporting clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

- <sup>23</sup>For I received from the Lord  
what I also delivered to you,  
that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread,  
<sup>24</sup>and when he had given thanks, he broke it,  
and said,  
“This is my body,  
which is for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.”  
<sup>25</sup>In the same way also he took the cup, after supper,  
saying,  
“This cup is the new covenant in my blood.  
Do this, ... in remembrance of me.”  
[as often as you drink it,]  
<sup>26</sup>For as often as you eat this bread  
and drink the cup,  
you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.  
<sup>27</sup>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.  
<sup>28</sup>Let a person examine himself, then,  
and so eat of the bread  
and drink of the cup.  
<sup>29</sup>For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body  
eats and drinks judgment on himself. \*  
<sup>30</sup>That is why many of you are weak and ill,  
and some have died.  
<sup>31</sup>But if we judged ourselves truly,  
we would not be judged.  
<sup>32</sup>But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined  
so that we may not be condemned along with the world.  
<sup>33</sup>**So then, my brothers, when you come together to eat, wait for one another—**  
<sup>34</sup>if anyone is hungry,  
let him eat at home—  
so that when you come together it will not be for judgment.

About the other things I will give directions when I come.

\*Note that in the Greek grammar, the emphasis is on the eating and drinking without discerning the body rather than on the consequence of judgment.

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1. Look back at verses 23-26 from last week's lesson, and list the two statements about why we do the Lord's supper.
  
2. In verse 27, what does Paul say about the one who "eats ... or drinks ... in an unworthy manner"?
  
3. In verse 29, how does Paul further define what he means by "an unworthy manner"?
  
4. Read 10:15-17.
  - a. Who participates in (and thereby comprises) the body of Christ?
  
  - b. What reality does their participation together demonstrate?
  
  - c. With that in mind, what does Paul likely mean by "discerning the body" in 11:29?
  
  - d. How does this help you understand why their practice was "in an unworthy manner"?

❖ Day 2

Read 1 Corinthians 11:27-34 again.

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5. According to verse 30, what are some of the potential consequences for participating “in an unworthy manner ... without discerning the body”?
  - a. What do you learn about God as a result of seeing these consequences in the passage?
6. In your own words, how do we avoid those consequences, and about what are we to examine and judge ourselves?
7. According to verse 32, what does Paul say that this judgment *is* and *is not*, and why is this significant?
8. What is Paul’s instruction to them in verse 33?
9. Why is this instruction important considering his description of their practice in verses 17-22?

❖ Day 3

Read 1 Corinthians 11:27-34 again.

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10. In 1:18-25, Paul presented the death of Christ as the antidote for worldly wisdom, and in chapters 8-11 (especially 10:15-17) it is the corrective for exercising one's "rights" at the expense of a brother. What sin problems/heart issues is it the solution for in this passage?
11. What God-connection/gospel-connection does Paul want the Corinthians to make to correct their errors regarding the Lord's supper?
12. Thinking about the entire text of 11:17-34, summarize how and why the way they approached the Lord's supper was in complete opposition to what the Lord's supper should have looked like among them.
13. The structure of the way that we at Summit Woods practice the Lord's supper guards against the Corinthians' particular external expression of their sin problem, but how could similar sinful heart issues appear in our congregation?

In preparation for Sunday, pray that we will rightly value what the Lord's supper represents and that this recognition will enhance our unity together as the body of Christ, our proclamation of His death, and our awareness of the importance that God places on our right practice as a congregation.