

Small Group Discussion Guide — Read 1 Corinthians 11:17-34

- What has been some of the confusion or debate surrounding the Lord's Supper throughout history and even still today? What kinds of questions are often asked when we approach this particular topic? What might be some of the "big" issues? What might be some of the more "minor" issues?
- What did Joshua mean that there are only two "ordinances" of the church? (*baptism and the Lord's Supper*) Where do we see Jesus instituting these? How do these two institutions given by Jesus help to protect the church and the gospel message?
- What does it mean that the Lord's Supper is a "sign" pointing to a greater reality? (*i.e. "the sign pointing to Chicago"*) How does the Lord's Supper do that? How had that been confused and abused during the time of the Reformation?
- In what context does Paul bring up the Lord's Supper in 1 Corinthians 11? How was the church at Corinth distorting this "sign" intended to be communicated in the Supper? What was the situation going on?
- What is the 'origin' of the Lord's Supper? Why was it so important that Jesus institute this meal (Luke 22:14-23; Mark 12-25; Matthew 26:17-29) during the celebration of the Passover? What happened during that first Passover meal in Exodus 12? How is Jesus' death the fulfillment and replacement of that meal?
- Joshua mentioned four purposes of the Lord's Supper in terms of four different 'looks' we are to take. What were those four 'looks'? How is each one of these significant and important as we partake together?
- Which one stood out to you most and why? How did you find them helpful in truly helping us to celebrate the Supper?
- In what ways were you challenged or encouraged by today's message?