

WEEKLY WORSHIP GUIDE



1 Corinthians 11:27-30--April 28th, 2024

Sermon Recap:

Approaching the Table

I. Serious Manner (v.27)

- We come to the table to commemorate the atoning, substitutionary death of Jesus Christ on behalf of his people. The table is a tangible display of the Gospel that says, "We are sinners saved by grace; our only hope is in Christ alone."
- Coming to the table is an admittance that we are unworthy. This is not the "unworthiness" to which Paul referred.
- CONTEXT: The Corinthian church was gifted, but lacked love. Their "love feast" were marked by selfishness, dissension, and greed. They carried this "me-centered mentality" to the Lord's Table, treating it as their own, as if it were just another meal.
- We eat and drink unworthily is we do not come with a sense of sin.
- To come to the table in an unworthy manner, then, is to come with a carelessly casual, irreverent spirit. It is to come to this table maybe with your words, more likely with your heart and your actions and demonstrate that you do not understand the meaning of Christ's death on the cross.

II. Strict Warning (v.29-30)

Q: How does God respond to irreverent worship? (V.29-30)

- Reverence contains a health fear of the Lord.
- God is love, and he is holy. God is good and he is righteous. God is forgiving and he is just. This is the God we revere. We need room in our theology for this God.
- The judgment of God on his people is different than the judgment of God on the world. We are no longer destined for wrath but for love and discipline is an act of love (Hebrews 12:5-12).

III. Solemn Examination (V.28)

Q: What must we do, then, in preparation of coming to the table? (V.28_

- This a solemn remembrance of the sacrifice that was made to bring peace between us and God and his church.
 - Peace with God includes walking with the Lord and living in fellowship with him in righteousness.
 - We cannot use the grace of God as a license to sin, and still come in here and to this table in a worthy manner.
 - But peace with others will require me to slay the indwelling sin in my life and walk in the Spirit.
 - In this way, we must examine the peace we have with one another. If anything is hindering it, we must seek repentance, forgiveness, and reconciliation so that together we can come to the table in fellowship.

Discussion Questions:

- With what attitude should we approach worship?
- What is the Lord's Table a reminder of?
- What does it mean to come to the table in an "unworthy manner?"
- How does God respond to irreverent worship?
- "Reverence contains a healthy_____."
- What can you learn about God from this warning?
- How can the church make the same mistake as the Corinthians?
- How is discipline an act of love?
- What should the believer due in preparation for worship at the Lord's Table?
- What does peace with God look like?
- What responsibility do we have to one another before coming to the table?

Application:

- Why do you come to church each Sunday?
- Does your heart and your actions reflect that?
- How do you see a "me-centered mentality" in the church and yourself today?
- Does your theology have room for a God who would punish his people with sickness/death?

