

## **This Is My Body, This Is My Blood**

Mark 14:22-25

1. Read Luke 22:19-20 and 1 Corinthians 11:23-25. What did Christ command and why? What other ordinance did Jesus command his followers to do in Matthew 28:19?
2. What do the following names teach us about the meaning of Communion:
  - (a) 1 Cor 10:16--"participation" (from "koinonia," also translated, "communion," "sharing," or "fellowship")
  - (b) 1 Cor 10:16; Mt 26:27--"thanksgiving" (from "eucharist")
  - (c) 1 Cor 10:21--"The Lord's cup/table," vs. "the cup/table of demons"
  - (d) 1 Cor 11:20--"the Lord's Supper"
3. Christians agree that: (1) Jesus instituted this meal, and (2) the New Testament commands Christians to celebrate it. What are some things regarding Communion that Christians disagree about which are not addressed in the Bible? Why should communion unite rather than divide Christians? Why should we examine ourselves before eating the bread and drinking the cup of Communion (1Cor 11:27-28)?
4. Read Mark 14:22-25. What seems to be Mark's central purpose in this account? Hint: Think of Jesus' mission and person and how it relates to his life and death.
5. There are two elements in Communion: Bread and Cup. What does the fact that Jesus fed a huge crowd of Jews (Mk 6:41-44) and Gentiles (Mk 8:6-9) show us? How does John's gospel relate the bread and drink to Jesus' body and blood (Jn 6:53-57)?
6. The Cup represents Jesus' blood shed to cleanse us and give us life (Lev 17:11; Heb 9:22). What does "my blood of the [new] covenant" mean (Jer 31:31-34)? How does this covenant express God's love?
7. What does "for many" mean (10:45)? Why should we remember and celebrate Communion "until he comes" (1Cor 11:26)? How can this meal strengthen our faith and the Christian community?