

GETTING TO KNOW JESUS

Quick Glance

Lesson 6

Scripture

Luke 22:19-20

Lesson Aim

To teach that Jesus wants Christians to take communion so we remember what He did for us when He died on the cross for us.

Memory Verse

And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me" (Luke 22:19).

Teacher Reminder:

Serving communion should be done by elders or pastors.

LESSON 6

Communion



Pre-Class Activities

- 1 Bring a communion set and grape juice and wafers.
- 2 Pass out Memory Verse and Key Point.

Review Questions

- 1 Name the four symbols of the C&MA.
- 2 What do the letters C&MA stand for?
- 3 Why should you be baptized?
- 4 What must we do before we get baptized?

Bible Lesson

“Christians have practiced communion since the time of Jesus.”

- *Jesus observed communion. This is why it's sometimes called The Lord's Supper or the Lord's Table. In fact, the word "communion" does not appear in the Bible but the term, "The Lord's Supper" does. (Read it in 1 Corinthians 11:20, Matthew 26:26–29)*
- *Early Christians took communion. (1 Corinthians 11:23–26)*
- *All Jesus' followers have observed communion. (1 Corinthians 11:23–25)*

So what's special about taking communion?

- 1** Communion is meaningful because of what it represents.
- 2** Communion is a special way to remember that Jesus, God's Son, died. When a person dies, there is a funeral service where family and friends get together to remember the things that made the person special to them. In a similar way, communion is a special time to remember that Jesus loved people so much that he died for them. Lk 22:19-20
- 3** Communion is a special time to say "thank you Jesus for dying for me." When a person becomes a child of God and joins God's forever family, Jesus becomes more than a Savior; He becomes his or her personal Savior. One reason you observe communion is to show gratitude for what Jesus did for you. (1 Corinthians 10:16–17)
- 4** Communion is a special time to think about how much you need Jesus.
- 5** Communion is a special time for people in a church to show that they are a family. Because God is their Father, they are all brothers and sisters and they love one another like people in a family should.

Since communion is so special, it's supposed to be a serious time. This means that it's not time to be laughing or talking or drawing pictures. It's a time to be thinking about Jesus and praying.

"What does the bread and grape juice mean? (Show bread and grape juice)

The actual piece of bread is not special in itself. It may be the same kind of bread you eat at a meal. Or it may be small crackers. The important thing is what it represents. It stands for the body of the Lord Jesus that was put to death on the cross.

The juice in the cup is not some special kind of juice. It's the same as the grape juice you would drink for breakfast. What's important is that the juice represents the blood of Jesus that flowed from his wounds when He died on the cross.

Now you can see why communion is a time to be serious. When you think about Jesus dying on the cross, it's sad.

It is not something you should do just because a lot of people around you are doing it. If a person does not yet know the Lord Jesus as personal Savior, s/he should not eat the bread and drink the juice.

It is something you do after you have looked honestly at yourself to see that you have become a Christian through faith in the Lord Jesus.

It is something you do after you have looked inside yourself to see that your behavior, words, thoughts, beliefs and attitudes are pleasing to Jesus. As you're thinking about this and remember something that you've done to displease the Lord, you'll want to confess it ..."

It is very important to confess your sin and make it right before God so you can participate in the Lord's Supper with a clean heart.

**This section used with permission from the booklet "Hungry for More? What Communion is all About for Kids" by Dennis Barta at Grace Church available for purchase from Grace Church.*

Have a child read 1 Corinthians 11:26–27.

How do we celebrate communion?

At a time during the service the pastor will say that it is time for communion. He may read Scripture and pray before serving communion. Listen carefully to the pastor's instructions because communion can be served in different ways. Sometimes they may have elders in the church pass plates of small pieces of bread and then small cups of grape juice to each person. Then he may pray, and after he prays, you eat or drink. Sometimes he may have the plate of pieces of bread or a large cup of grape juice at the front of the church. You may be asked to come to take communion with your family at the front of the church. Just listen carefully and follow the directions. Watch what your parents do and follow their lead.

What do you need to do if you feel you are ready to take communion?

- *You have to be saved—a Christian. Have you asked Jesus to forgive you of your sins? Do you love and serve Jesus?*
- *You need to study what the Bible says about communion (See verses below in Bible Drill.)*
- *Make sure you understand what communion means and can explain it to someone else.*
- *Discuss it with your parents. Ask your parents' permission. If they agree that you are ready, then you can participate in the Lord's Supper the next time you have it at church.*

Communion Quiz

- *What has to happen before you take communion? You have to believe in Jesus and ask forgiveness of your sins.*

- *Why should Christians take communion? Because Jesus told us to. He wanted us to remember His sacrifice when He died on the cross.*
- *How old do you have to be to take communion? There is no certain age. You must be a Christian.*
- *When should you take communion? Only after you have become a Christian.*
- *What is one bad reason for taking communion? Because everyone else is doing it.*
- *What does the bread stand for? Jesus' body, which was broken for us.*
- *What does the wine/grape juice stand for? Jesus' blood shed for us.*

Prayer

Tell your students that they should always pray silently before they take communion. 1 Corinthians says it is sinful to take communion without examining or thinking about your life and asking forgiveness for any sin. They can pray a prayer something like this:

*Please forgive me of my sins. Please help me to obey you.
Thank you God that Jesus' body was broken for me when
He died on the cross. Thank you that He was willing to shed
His blood for me. Thank you for all Jesus did for me when
He died for me.*

Memory Verse

Make up motions with the children to go with the verse. Practice them until they can recite the verse.

*And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying,
"This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." (Luke 22:19).*

Communion Bible Drill

Instructions are in Lesson 1.

The verses to use are as follows:

Luke 22:20–21
Mark 14:23–24
Mark 14:22
1 Corinthians 11:20

John 6:48
John 6:51
Matthew 26:27–28

John 6:33
Matthew 26:26
Luke 22:19