"In Remembrance of Me"

- I. Introduction
 - A. Shortly before His death, Jesus and His disciples observed the Passover meal during what is often called "the last supper." The Lord used this occasion to institute a new memorial that is a requirement of the *New* Testament. Matthew 26:26-29
 - B. At least six additional passages speak about this memorial. It is known as "breaking of bread," "Communion," and the "Lord's Supper." Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:19-20; Acts 2:42; Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34
 - C. This memorial is key to the Christian's life. Consider *why* we must observe the Lord's Supper, *what* is done when we observe it, *who* must observe it, *when* we must observe it, and *how* we must observe it.
- II. <u>Why: Remember Jesus</u>
 - A. God's children can be forgetful. Just as the Passover feast was to remind the Israelites of what God had done for them, the Lord's Supper is to remind Christians of what Christ has done for us. It is a reminder of His death, and the new covenant that was sealed with His blood. **1 Corinthians 11:24-25**
- III. Why: Proclaim the Lord's Death
 - A. The Lord's Supper is also a *proclamation* of the death of Christ. When we partake, we declare to the world what He has done for us and our acceptance of the blessings made possible by His death. **1 Corinthians 11:26**; *Hymns for Worship, Song 175*
- IV. What: Communion
 - A. The Lord's Supper is also a time of communion, or fellowship, with one another. We are able to have this fellowship because of the fellowship we each have with *Christ*. Our communion with *Him* is also shown through the Lord's Supper.
 1 Cor. 10:16-17; *Hymns for Worship, Song 171*; Matt. 26:29

- V. <u>Who: Disciples</u>
 - A. Given that the Lord's Supper shows the communion we have with Christ and other disciples, it is fitting for all disciples to partake. All of those who are in fellowship with Christ have accepted the benefits associated with His death, and need to remember Him. Acts 20:7
- VI. When: First Day of the Week
 - A. The New Testament provides an example of disciples coming together *specifically* on the first day of the week to observe this memorial. **Acts 20:7**
- VII. How: New Testament Pattern
 - A. Just as there is a biblical pattern for *when* to partake, there is a biblical pattern for *how* to partake. For instance, Scripture specifies the two elements to use, and states that Jesus gave thanks prior to partaking of each. **1 Corinthians 11:23-25**

VIII. How: Worthy Manner

- A. The church at Corinth was rebuked for assembling for the worse rather than the better. They perverted the Lord's Supper to the point that what they were calling "the Lord's Supper" was not the true Lord's Supper at all. 1 Corinthians 11:17, 20
- B. By perverting the memorial in this way, the Corinthians partook *unworthily*. While none of us deserve Christ's sacrifice, we must partake in a *worthy manner*.
 1 Corinthians 11:27-30
- C. Like the Corinthians, we need to examine ourselves and be mindful of what this *memorial* is all about.
 1 Corinthians 11:24-25
- IX. Conclusion
 - A. When observed rightly, the Lord's Supper is a wonderful blessing. May we follow God's pattern for this memorial.