

9. **Is the main benefit of the Supper the assurance of the forgiveness of sins?**

Y N

Jesus told us the benefit: “Take, eat; this is My body.’ ... ‘Drink from it, all of you; for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins.” (Mt. 26:26-28).

Summary: Since all have sinned (Rom. 3:23), Jesus gave His body and shed His blood to provide forgiveness. In the Lord’s Supper, *by the power of God*, Jesus’ given body has been united to the bread and Jesus’ shed blood has been united to the wine. Since Christians cannot live sinless lives (Eccl. 7:20), the Lord’s Supper is God’s way of assuring us that – *in Christ* – we are forgiven. Do you believe such things? If not, let’s schedule a time to talk!

Part 4 – Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS)

10. **Do you understand and agree with the basic teachings of the LCMS?** Y N

Jesus made the greatest sacrifice: We have received the benefits through **baptism** (Acts 2:38-39; Gal. 3:27; Tit. 3:5) and through **God’s word** (Jam. 1:18; 1Pe. 1:23). As you read this passage, realize the important of receiving the Supper from a congregation that is teaching in agreement with the Bible. Also, as you receive, you are expressing your agreement with the teachings of that congregation: **1 Corinthians 10:15-22:** *I speak as to wise men; you judge what I say. Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a*

*sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ? Since there is one bread, we who are many are one body; for we all partake of the one bread. Look at the nation Israel; are not those who eat the sacrifices sharers in the altar? What do I mean then? That a thing sacrificed to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? *No*, but *I say* that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God; and I do not want you to become sharers in demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons. Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? We are not stronger than He, are we?*

Summary: The Lord’s Supper is a meal of unity; we receive together as members of the one body of Christ. The Bible says that *those who eat the sacrifices are sharers in the altar*. Therefore, when we receive from an altar, we are expressing our agreement with the teachings of that altar. If you want to learn more about the teachings of the LCMS, *please let me know! Pastor Green*

Most Bible references are from the NASB, 1995 version; Mark 11:25 and 1 Co. 10:16 are from the NIV, 1984 version.

Connect With Us

Website: www.BLC7500.com

YouTube and Podcast: Benefit from the Bible

Facebook: Bethlehem Parma

Schedule: Saturday 4; Sunday 9; 440-845-2230

Location: 7500 State Road, Parma, OH 44134

(Last Update: 9-24)

Lord’s Supper Self-Examination

Jesus gave His body and shed His blood to take away our sins!

***Before we receive,
let us carefully
examine our hearts!***



Introduction

Dear Friend: We have all sinned, but Jesus has ♦lived as our sinless substitute and ♦received our sins and eternal punishment. Now, *by grace through faith*, we know Jesus as Savior and Lord and seek to live unto God’s glory. However, we cannot live without sin, so, *through the Lord’s Supper*, God keeps assuring us of His forgiveness.

Over the centuries the basis for who can receive the Supper has varied. Long ago, the basis was a shared belief in the Nicene Creed. Today, there are various requirements, for example, ♦professing Christian or ♦real presence or ♦LCMS member. Our approach at Bethlehem is Biblical self-examination using 10 questions.

Before we receive the Lord’s Supper, the Bible instructs us to examine ourselves (**1Co. 11:28**). ♦The next section of this brochure is what we include in our weekly service folder. ♦The following sections are the full version of our self-examination statement.

LORD'S SUPPER SELF-EXAMINATION:

"Let a person examine himself" (1Cor. 11:28 ESV).

Should I receive the Lord's Supper today?

Use these 10 questions to examine yourself...

Part 1 – Basics of Being a Christian:

1. **Do I believe the Bible is true?** Y N *John 17:17*
2. **Am I sorry for my sins?** Y N *2 Cor. 7:10*
3. **Am I trusting in Jesus for eternal life?** Y N *Ac. 4:12*
4. **Am I baptized?** Y N *Matt. 28:19; Acts 2:38-39; Tit. 3:5*
5. **Do I desire to live for Christ?** Y N *2 Cor. 5:15*

Part 2 – Forgiveness and Reconciliation:

6. **Am I forgiving all others?** Y N *Mark 11:25*
7. **Am I doing my part to reconcile?** Y N *Rom. 12:18*

Part 3 – Elements and Benefits of the Lord's Supper:

8. **Are the elements of the Lord's Supper bread, body, wine, and blood?** Y N *1 Cor. 10:16*
9. **Is the main benefit of the Supper the assurance of the forgiveness of sins?** Y N *Matt. 26:26-28*

Part 4 – Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS):

10. **Do you understand and agree with the basic teachings of the LCMS?** Y N *1 Cor. 10:15-22*

Part 1 – Basics of Being a Christian

1. **Do I believe the Bible is true?** Y N
Jesus prayed to His Father: "Your word is truth" (John 17:17). See this brochure: [The Bible Is True](#)
2. **Am I sorry for my sins** (*admitting them and wanting to turn from them*)? Y N
Godly sorrow is essential: "...the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation... (2Co. 7:10).
3. **Am I trusting in Jesus** (*in who He is – the Son of God, and what He did – living as my sinless substitute, receiving my sins and eternal punishment, and laying down His life*) **for eternal life?** Y N

Regarding Jesus: "...there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

4. **Am I baptized?** Y N

God works through baptism: "He [God the Father] saved us... by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit" (Titus 3:5).

All people are included: "Go... and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit..." (Matt. 28:19).

All ages are included: "...be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and your children..." (Acts 2:38-39).

Saved adults desire baptism: "As they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?'" (Acts 8:36).

5. **Do I desire to live for Christ?** Y N

It's amazing to be in Christ: **From dead in sins to alive in Christ; from hell bound to heaven bound; from fear to peace;** and much more! "[Jesus] died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf" (2Co. 5:15).

Summary: A Christian ♦knows the Bible is true, ♦is sorry for his sins, ♦is trusting in

Jesus alone for eternal life, ♦has been baptized into Christ, and ♦desires to live for Christ! If those things are true for you, *then you are a Christian!* If not, let's schedule a time to talk!

Part 2 – Forgiveness and Reconciliation

6. **Am I forgiving all others?** Y N

It is vital to extend forgiveness: Jesus said, "...if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins" (Mk 11:25).

7. **Am I doing my part to reconcile?** Y N

Do your part to work things out: "If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men" (Rom. 12:18).

Summary: Even if others refuse to accept our forgiveness or reconcile, *it is vital for us to offer forgiveness and do our part to work things out!* Are such things true in your life? If not, *let's talk!*

Part 3 – Elements and Benefits of the Lord's Supper

8. **Are the elements of the Lord's Supper bread, body, wine, and blood?** Y N

Note the underlined words: "Is not the cup [wine] of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?" (1Co. 10:16).