

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

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Lord’s Supper Self-Examination

Jesus gave His body and shed His blood to take away the sin of the world!

Before we receive,
let us rightly 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).