

THE COMMUNION OF THE SAINTS

1 Corinthians 10:16-17

PAT NEMMERS

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This discussion guide is designed for Saylorville Church Community Groups as they live and learn together each week. The sermons and guides can be found at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- Growing up (or earlier in your faith), how was Communion practiced or explained to you?
- Where have you experienced the strongest sense of community—and what made it feel that way?

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- **Remember** what you talked about last time. Is there anything you need to **follow up** on this week?
- **Review** your Sermon Notes together. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you learned?
- **Read** this week's passage together. In his message, Pastor Pat pointed us to the community that Christ-followers experience with the celebration of the Lord's Table.

The Lord's Table is a Celebration of the Communion of the Saints:

1. **When, Who, and Why the Church Comes Together (Acts 20:7)**
 - According to this verse, when did the early church gather? Who gathered? Why did they gather?
 - What stands out to you about the stated purpose of their gathering?
 - How does this challenge or clarify how we tend to define "going to church" today?
 - How should the Sunday worship gathering fit intentionally together with your Community Group gathering?
2. **Communion as "Koinonia" (1 Corinthians 10:16–17)**
 - The word translated *participation, fellowship, or communion* comes from the Greek concept of "koinonia". How have you heard this word defined in the past?
 - Why is koinonia something you cannot practice alone? How does that inform the way we practice the Lord's Table?
 - What personal preferences, convictions, or differences most often threaten koinonia in the church? What can you personally do to alleviate those threats?
3. **"Coming Together" and the Priority of Presence (Hebrews 10:24–25)**
 - Why do you think Scripture places such a strong emphasis on physically gathering together?
 - The sermon contrasted in-person worship with "pajama church." Where do you see the limits of online-only participation? What are some things you can only get if you meet face-to-face?
 - What excuses do you often make for not gathering—and how does this passage challenge them?
4. **Unity Without Uniformity (Ephesians 4:1–6)**
 - Paul repeats the word "one" eight times. What kind of unity is he calling the church to protect?
 - The sermon emphasized that unity is not uniformity. Why is that distinction important?
 - According to Romans 12:18, what responsibility do believers personally carry in maintaining peace? Is there another Christ-follower that you need to talk to this week to seek peace?

Receive and Respond: What will I do because of what I just heard?

PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Thank God for the perfect life and sacrificial death of Jesus.
- Ask the Spirit to help your group maintain unity, not uniformity.
- Pray that your church would reflect the oneness Jesus prayed for—so that the world may believe.

