

## **Into the Deep- Week 10 Small Group Questions**

### **Ask:**

1. What is the most memorable meal you've ever had? Another way to say this is what food triggers a memory for you?
2. If you could pick your last meal, what would it be?
3. What is your history with the sacrament of communion?

**Leader's note:** Since we are part of a non-denominational church, it's safe to say that people in your groups will come from different traditions. The point of question three is to gain an understanding of the different views and practices your group may have. Some may have practiced it every week, but only having gone through a series of classes that led to confirmation of the church. Some may have never practiced it. Some may have practiced it once a month. Some may have passed communion trays down an aisle while others dipped bread in wine or juice.

### **Read:**

I Corinthians 11:23-25, For I pass on to you what I received from the Lord himself. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread <sup>24</sup> and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and said, "This is my body, which is given for you."<sup>[1]</sup> Do this in remembrance of me."<sup>25</sup> In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this in remembrance of me as often as you drink it."

### **Ask:**

1. Pastor Jeff said that communion reminds us of the realization of Jesus. Specifically, he said, "Jesus is the culmination and the realization of the entire plan and provision of God through all of Scripture and human history, going all the way back to the garden of Eden." **Do you agree with him? Do you see God's redemptive plan through Jesus in Genesis? Where?**

**Leader's Note:** We see God's redemptive plan play out in Genesis 3:21 when a sacrifice was made (shedding of blood) to atone for their sins. We also see a prophecy in Genesis 3:14-15 that God would send someone to destroy the works of the devil.

2. Pastor Jeff said that communion reminds us of our redemption by sharing about the Jewish history and celebration of Passover. Did you know much about Passover before today? How does communion remind us of redemption just as Passover reminds the Jewish people of redemption?

**Leader's Note:** "Jesus wasn't saying, "Hey, add this to your worship service when you write the book of Acts." He was saying, "I'm God. I am the Passover Lamb. I'm the blood on the door post. I'm the bread of life. I am the light of the world. I'm the one who takes away the sins of the people. No longer will sin just be covered in your life, when I kick open the door of that tomb I will eradicate sin from your life. In the Old Covenant you were looking ahead to someone else, but the in the New Covenant, I am that one!" Communion doesn't provide forgiveness, but it continually points us to the one who gave it to us. As with Passover, and asking, "What makes this night different." We do the same thing with communion. "What makes this meal different?" With the blood of Jesus, we have been ransomed and redeemed from our enemy. Forgiven of our sins. Washed clean." Pastor Jeff Maness

**Read:**

I Corinthians 11:37-31, So anyone who eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord unworthily is guilty of sinning against<sup>[a]</sup> the body and blood of the Lord. <sup>28</sup> That is why you should examine yourself before eating the bread and drinking the cup. <sup>29</sup> For if you eat the bread or drink the cup without honoring the body of Christ,<sup>[b]</sup> you are eating and drinking God's judgment upon yourself. <sup>30</sup> That is why many of you are weak and sick and some have even died. <sup>31</sup> But if we would examine ourselves, we would not be judged by God in this way.

**Ask:**

1. What do you think Paul means when he tells us to examine ourselves before we take communion? Is that something you think about before you take communion?
2. Should we only reexamine our relationship with God?

**Apply:**

1. What is one thing from this message that stood out to you the most?

2. In the book of Acts, we see the early church practicing communion together in their homes. Make a plan as a group to celebrate communion together at an upcoming small group meeting.