

IN OUR MEETING YOU WILL NOTICE:

Different Men Share Thoughts about the Lord Jesus Christ

“Whenever you come together, each of you has a song, a teaching. . .let all things be done for edification” (1 Corinthians 14:26).

The idea that only one man should do all the speaking is not found in Scripture. Instead, this is an open time for various men to read Scripture, pray, or give out a song.

The Lord Jesus said the Holy Spirit “will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and shall declare it to you” (John 16:14). You will notice that several men, moved by the Holy Spirit, will lead us in remembering our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Women Remain Silent

“As in all the churches of the saints, let your women keep silence in the churches, for they are not permitted to speak” (1 Corinthians 14:35).

Though God sees men and women of equal value and though they both have equal standing in salvation, we believe the Bible teaches that they have different functions. You will notice that the women are silent throughout the meeting, though their hearts are very active in worshipping the Lord.

The Meeting Culminates in Breaking a Loaf of Bread and Drinking Wine

“This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of Me. . .This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you; do this in remembrance of Me” (Luke 22:19, 20).

The purpose of both the bread and wine is to remember the Lord Jesus Christ. Both are purely symbolic and do nothing to give us eternal life. Only faith in Jesus Christ does that (John 3:16). As we eat the bread and drink from the cup, we remember His death was necessary to give us life.

Men’s Heads are Uncovered; Women’s Heads are Covered

“A man indeed ought not to cover his head...The woman ought to have a symbol of authority on her head” (1 Corinthians 11:7, 10).

As in the early church, we observe the symbolic tradition of head-coverings. Man’s head represents the glory of God (1 Cor. 11:7) and so it is to be uncovered, demonstrating that the glory of God should be seen. Woman’s head represents the glory of humanity (1 Cor. 11:15) and so it is to be covered, demonstrating that our glory has no place in the church.

Not Everyone Partakes of the Bread and Wine

“He who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord’s body” (1 Corinthians 11:29).

We are happy for you to observe this meeting. However, we do ask that you not partake of the bread and wine until we have touched base with you and see where you are with the Lord. The Bible clearly warns of the danger of partaking in the wrong way. We want to make sure that we only pass the bread and wine to those who have been born again by faith in Jesus Christ, who have identified themselves as Christians by believer’s baptism, and who are not living in open sin. Please do not feel insulted when passed; we are only making sure we do things in a way pleasing to God.

Not Everyone Partakes in the Collection

“Taking nothing from the Gentiles” (3 John 1:7).

Giving is part of our worship (Hebrews 13:16). As with the bread and wine, when a person is passed from the collection, it is not because we look on you as a non-Christian, but because we want to be extra careful that only believers participate. Since we cannot tell from a person’s external appearance if they are a Christian, we wait to talk with them.