

## 1 Corinthians 11:17-22 (November 20, 2022)

### OPENING QUESTION:

**SERMON DISCUSSION:** How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

### BIBLE PASSAGE STUDY QUESTIONS: READ 1 Corinthians 11:17-22

**Note:** “When the Corinthian church gathers to celebrate the Lord’s Supper, they likely meet at someone’s home and eat an actual meal that begins with breaking bread, proceeds to a meal... at the home of a relatively wealthy Christian because a larger home would accommodate more people. The architecture of Greco-Roman homes in Corinth suggest that the social elite would eat in a special dining room (the triclinium) while the lower class would eat in a larger courtyard outside (the atrium).

(Crossway ESV Expository Commentary p. 321 by Andrew David Naselli)

1. Paul’s disappointment with the Corinthians’ behavior is evident in his remark, “When you come together it is not for the better but for the worse” (1 Corinthians 11:17).

What principle(s) do you think they have ignored? Note from previous passages how Paul addressed this issue (1 Corinthians 6:12, 8:9, 10:23).

2. Paul states, “When you come together as a church, I hear there are divisions among you.” From 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 3:1-4, 6:5-8, recall the types of divisions found among the Corinthians. What is the division Paul is now addressing in 1 Corinthians 11:20-22?

3. The phrase, "When you come together [as a church]" is used three times in this passage (verses 17, 18, 20). Coming together is a corporate act, not a private or individual one. Consider what things might cause others to feel awkward or feel left out when congregating as a church? How can believers encourage and reach out to include others at their gatherings?

4. The ESV uses the word "factions" in 1 Corinthians 11:19 while some translations use "heresies" or "differences". Merriam-Websters defines factions as: "a party or group (as within a government) that is often contentious or self-seeking: CLIQUE."  
What is revealed in the midst of factions within a church?  
How can you know what is genuine?

5. Read 1 Corinthians 11:20-22; Galatians 2:10; James 2:1-7. Note both Paul's heart and God's heart concerning the poor. What does unkind and thoughtless treatment of the poor within the body of believers reveal?