

*Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love.*

*Revelation 2:4 (NIV)*

## Our Problem = Wandering Hearts

1. We all struggle with sustaining the intensity and intimacy required for relationships to grow.

*Revelation 2:1-5*

## God's Solution = Focused Remembrance

2. The ancient path of "breaking bread" together restores our spiritual passion by forcing us to...

*Acts 2:42*

Remember who Jesus is and what He's done for us.

*<sup>23</sup> For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread; <sup>24</sup> and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me." <sup>25</sup> In the same way He took the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." <sup>26</sup> For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.*

I Corinthians 11:23-26 (NASB)

My Response = \_\_\_\_\_

### Jesus on “Authentic Spirituality”

- “...you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness.” -*Jesus*  
Luke 11:39, NIV
- “...thus you nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many things like that.” -*Jesus*  
Mark 7:13, NIV
- “...you are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of men, but God knows your hearts. What is highly valued among men is detestable in God's sight.” -*Jesus*  
Luke 16:15, NIV
- “And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full.” -*Jesus*  
Matthew 6:5, NIV
- “And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words.” -*Jesus*  
Matthew 6:7, NIV

## Following the Ancient Path of “Breaking Bread” Together

Remember who we are and our present need of repentance.

*<sup>27</sup> Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. <sup>28</sup> A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup.*

*<sup>29</sup> For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. <sup>30</sup> That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep.*

*<sup>31</sup> But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment. <sup>32</sup> When we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned with the world.*

I Corinthians 11:27-32 (NIV)

Verse 27 – *The Warning* =

Verse 28 – *The Instruction* =

Verse 29-30 – *The Reason* =

Verse 30-32 – *The Application* =

My Response = \_\_\_\_\_

Remember who we are as fellow members of His family.

*<sup>17</sup> But in giving this instruction, I do not praise you, because you come together not for the better but for the worse. <sup>18</sup> For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that divisions exist among you; and in part I believe it. <sup>19</sup> For there must also be factions among you, so that those who are approved may become evident among you. <sup>20</sup> Therefore when you meet together, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper, <sup>21</sup> for in your eating each one takes his own supper first; and one is hungry and another is drunk. <sup>22</sup> What! Do you not have houses in which to eat and drink? Or do you despise the church of God and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you? In this I will not praise you.*

I Corinthians 11:17-22 (NASB)

Verse 17-22 – *The Rebuke* =

Verse 33-34 – *The Application* =

Verse 30-32 – *The Application* =

My Response = \_\_\_\_\_

## Discussion Questions

1. Human nature causes all of us to “drift” away from the most important relationships in our lives (even God). Share a time when this has happened to some degree in your life.
2. What is it about looking at old pictures, or hearing an old song that’s “special” to you and someone close to you, that begins to warm your heart?
3. What new insight did you gain about the Lord’s supper from this message?
4. Is there any personal relationship in the body of Christ that needs to be repaired...“As far as it depends on you?”
5. Are there any specific steps you need to take to “restore your first love” with Jesus? If so, what does that look like this week?