

Study Notes based on Sunday Morning 17 February 2019

Acts 2:42 and 46; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34

Breaking Bread (John Smith)

1. If you heard the talk on Sunday morning - did you hear anything you hadn't thought about before? Did you learn anything new? Did you react against anything you heard?
2. How do you respond to the argument that 'The breaking of bread' which the believers devoted themselves to, is not a reference to communion, but simply that? If it just means eating together can you see any implications for us? Is it possible that we read the Bible through our own cultural spectacles? Does this really matter?
3. The Corinthians passage suggests that The Lord's Supper was part of a much more extensive love feast. In what ways might we be missing out by including Communion as part of a worship service, or as in some cases tagged on at the end?
4. What do we understand by the bread and wine in communion? Are they simply symbolic emblems or is there something more?
5. Why should a person engage in self-examination before partaking in the bread and the wine? Are there any circumstances which might disqualify us?
6. What are your views on the frequency of the Lord's Supper? What are the advantages and disadvantages of often (even weekly), or occasional – twice a year in the Church of Scotland.
7. In our situation we queue to receive the bread and wine. In the light of our understanding of 1 Corinthians 11, should we be silently reverent or should we be greeting one another and welcoming newcomers who we find ourselves standing beside?
8. Are there other issues about communion that you would find it helpful to explore?

John S Smith 18 February 2019