

AN EXTRA SPECIAL FAMILY MEETING

1 Corinthians 11:23-29

Introduction: Everyone loves family get-togethers such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, birthdays, cook-outs and anniversaries. Sometimes friends of the family are invited and of course the "in-laws" are always there, too. However, sometimes there is an extra special family meeting where only those who are actually blood related of the immediate family are expected to be there, such as reading a will, or some family crisis, matters which pertain only to the immediate family and no one else.

Today is such a time for us. It is an extra special family meeting. We are going to have a time together called "observing the Lord's Supper." Almost always in our regular family meetings (Sundays, Wednesdays, Revivals, etc.) everyone who comes through our doors (visitors, friends, etc) are invited and participate in whatever we do and they are most welcome to do so. However today is different. This is something that only God's family is invited to do. For those not of God's family do not know what, why, or how to do what we will do today.

I. IT IS A TIME OF REMEMBERING AND BEING THANKFUL

1. *1 Corinthians 11:23-29*
2. Let us remember that once we were not a part of God's family.
3. Let us remember the love that the Father and His Son, Jesus has for us.
4. Let us remember Jesus' suffering and dying for us which is represented by the bread and wine.
5. Let us remember Jesus' resurrection from the tomb.

II. IT IS TIME OF ANTICIPATION

1. Let us look forward to the time when our work and life is over and ended down here.
2. Let us look forward to the time when Jesus will come for all of His Family.
3. Let us look forward to going to that place Jesus has prepared for His Family.
4. Let us look forward to all of God's family (our family) being together for all eternity.

III. IT IS A TIME OF EXAMINATION OF CORRECTION

1. It is a time for us each to examine and reflect upon our behavior in public, before others.
2. It is a time for us to examine and reflect upon our behavior in private.
3. It is a time for us to examine and reflect upon our relationship with our spiritual Family.

4. It is a time for us to make all things right with our Heavenly Father and one another.

CONCLUSION:

1. As you can see, only members of God's Family can do these things, therefore only they can take part in this extra special family meeting today.
2. God has more room in His family. However, there is only one way into His family and that is through His Son, Jesus Christ. That is the way everyone who is in God's family became a member.
3. We are warned not to take part in this extra special time unless we are in proper fellowship with our Heavenly Father for we bring disgrace upon His Son, Jesus, and that is what this extra special time is all about anyhow.
4. If you are not a member of God's Family, you are most welcome to watch and listen and hopefully become interested in what and why we are doing what we are today. Hopefully the next time we have this special time together, you will be able to join in as a family member.
5. Family member, if you are not in a proper fellowship with God our Father, you need to do whatever He requires of you to be in that proper fellowship before partaking of the elements.
6. Let us bring honor to our Heavenly Father, His Son, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.