



A Love Larger Than Life
 John 6:51-58; John 15:9-13; Romans 5:6-8

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How does the sacrament of communion communicate the love story of God?
 1. Why did Christ gift this sacred rite to His church?
2. Pastor shared the historical account of the Four Chaplains, a story of four military clergy of different faith traditions who selflessly sacrificed their lives so others could live.
 1. Considering John 15:13, "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." Is this a valid example of this passage? Why or why not?
3. Consider 1 John 4:20. How can you live out this principle in your life? What stops us from living it out?
4. Reflecting on your own heart, list the people you sacrificially love the most. Does your list include any strangers or enemies? Why or why not?

DEFINITION:

Sacrament: A Christian rite (such as baptism or the Eucharist) that is believed to have been ordained by Christ and that is held to be a means of divine grace or to be a sign or symbol of a spiritual reality.

5 LOVE LANGUAGES:

Words of Affirmation

Physical Touch

Acts of Service

Quality Time

Gifts

NEW UNDERSTANDING OF THE PASCHAL FEAST:

Matthew 26:26-28

Luke 22:19-20

Mark 14:22-24

1 Corinthians 11:23-25

⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

⁵²Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"

⁵³Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you,

John 6:51-58 (NIV)

unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. ⁵⁵For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. ⁵⁶Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living

John 6:51-58 (NIV)

Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.”

John 6:51-58 (NIV)

DIFFERENT PHILOSOPHIES OF COMMUNION

Transubstantiation — bread/wine become the literal body & blood of Christ

Consubstantiation — The literal flesh & blood of Christ co-exist with the bread & wine.

DIFFERENT PHILOSOPHIES OF COMMUNION

Memorial - The bread and juice/wine are merely symbols.

Real Spiritual Presence — The real presence of Christ is there spiritually but how is a mystery.

²⁵He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" ²⁷And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

Luke 24:25-32 (NIV)

²⁸As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began

Luke 24:25-32 (NIV)

to give it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. ³²They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

Luke 24:25-32 (NIV)

4 PHASES TO THE FULL REVELATION OF CHRIST

Possessed (John 5:19)

Blessed

Broken

COMMON WAYS WE ARE BROKEN

Tests/Trials

Challenges/Struggles

Betrayal

Isolation

Choice/Letting us do what we want

4 PHASES TO THE FULL REVELATION OF CHRIST

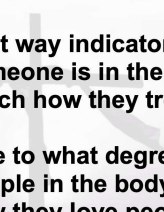
- Possessed**
- Blessed**
- Broken**
- Given**



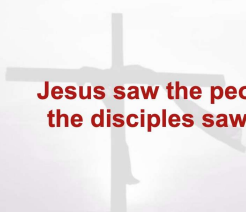
How to determine where you, or someone else, is in the process?

The best way indicator to determine where someone is in the 4-phase process is to watch how they treat people.

Observe to what degree they struggle to love people in the body of Christ. And moreso, how they love people who far from God.



Jesus saw the people as an opportunity, the disciples saw them as an obstacle.




⁹“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love.

John 15:9-13 (NIV)

¹¹I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹²My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.

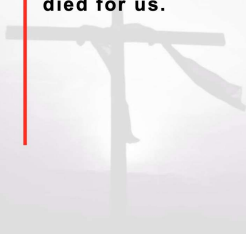
John 15:9-13 (NIV)

The Love Language of God is obedience




¹³Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

John 15:9-13 (NIV)



⁹But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8 (NIV)



**Maybe Jesus doesn't see us enemies,
just estranged family.**

⁵Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet...
⁶And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers,

Malachi 4:5-6 (NKJV)

The Four Chaplains



