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# BIBLE TALK

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This week the question is: **Should the communion be transported to the sick?**

The answer to this question is simply: **NO**.

Let me explain why.

Transporting the communion to sick people who are unable to attend worship services is an innovation of uninspired men, but is not found in scripture.

The word “communion” is a compound of the words “common” and “union.” It means to “share together.” The Lord’s supper is called “communion” in 1 Cor 10:16 because Christians share together a single loaf of unleavened bread in memory of the Lord’s body and they share together a single cup containing fruit of the vine in memory of the Lord’s blood which ratified the new covenant. Sharing together these elements requires coming together. Notice:

## **Acts 20:7**

<sup>7</sup> Now on the first day of the week, when **the disciples came together** to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight.

## **1 Corinthians 11:33-34**

<sup>33</sup> Therefore, my brethren, when you **come together to eat**, wait for one another.

<sup>34</sup> But if anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, lest you **come together** for judgment. And the rest I will set in order when I come.

All of these passages show that communion requires a “coming together” with other Christians in an assembly on the first day of each week.

Transporting the communion to people at their homes defeats the very purpose of communion.

The Lord acted out the very first communion service so that Christians would know exactly how it should be done. In that very first communion service, all the disciples participating were assembled together and ate the bread and drank from the cup together. The scriptures are absolutely silent about observing the communion in some other way. We have no authority from the Lord to alter the divine pattern for communion. Furthermore, we are warned in scripture about changing the divine pattern for worship.

### **Matthew 15:9**

<sup>9</sup> And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."

If anyone begins to alter the worship which God commanded in scripture, their worship becomes "vain" or useless.

If we want God to be honored and if we want God to be pleased with the worship we offer, we must follow the instructions which He has given.

When people are too sick to assemble for worship, God excuses them for not eating the Lord's supper. (Mt 12:7). God does not expect the impossible out of people. He does not condemn people who are too sick to come to worship. However ... if people willfully choose to stay away from the assembly, they sin and God does hold them guilty of not honoring and glorifying Him. In Heb 10:25 Christians are clearly told to not forsake the assembly of the church.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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