

ORDER OF OBSERVANCE

Step #1: Make introductory comments or short talk.

This is the time when any of the above comments might be appropriate to make. Keep your remarks to the point and fairly short. Length does not define a good speech. Jesus' comments were very short as we see from the accounts of the gospel writers. The purpose of your comments are to help set the mood and to help members center their minds on the observance. Keep any comments very scripturally based. This is not a time to be telling personal stories or making unrelated comments or jokes. Maintain a serious attitude and as much as possible have your thoughts prepared in advance. Keep in mind that almost no comment except perhaps a few transition words are really needed. A speech is not necessary if you don't feel comfortable with such. It would be just as appropriate to say, "Now we come to the Lord's supper. Let us now observe it in the way Christ commanded."

This is a good time to explain that the Lord's supper is for members only and that non-members are not required or expected to partake. If you chose to make any comments regarding this, however, be very polite and tactful. Remember that feelings are easily hurt and sometimes the folks who WE don't consider members of the body consider themselves members and may want to partake. Allow them to do such if they reach for the plate or cup. Let it be their decision.

Step #2: Observe the Lord's Supper as Christ gave it.

1. Take the Loaf first:

Jesus took the loaf first when he instituted the supper. Today we do the same. We do so because Christ did such and because it is logical that in order for us to remember the blood and the new covenant we would first have to remember the body of Christ.

A. Pray for the Loaf.

A short prayer thanking God is sufficient. Limit your prayer to specifically thanking God for the loaf and asking Him to bless it.

B. Partake of the Loaf yourself.

It is always best to partake immediately upon blessing the loaf. Jesus did so. If you wait to partake until all have partook it adds to the chance that you might forget to partake yourself. Nervousness sometimes can get the best of us so make it a habit to partake immediately after you ask God to bless it.

B. Pass the Loaf.

You may do this yourself or someone might have been delegated ahead of time to help in passing the loaf. In either case things should be done

