

Christian Church of Anchorage  
Communion “How To” Guide

So you have been asked to give the communion talk at church next week. It seems easy enough at first blush. Stand up and say a few words about communion, say a prayer and it's over. And then you start thinking. What if I say the wrong thing? What verse should I use? What if I forget why I'm up there? Don't worry, many men have gone before you and have asked these same questions and have come out on the other side unscathed.

This guide has been developed to help alleviate your fears and give you some guidelines to use while putting together your talk. It is intended to provide a good starting place for you to develop your talk.

As a general rule, the communion portion of our service takes place at the end of the opening music/praise service. The praise leader will usually indicate that the "next song" is the communion song. Once that song is completed, the person giving the communion talk goes to the front and speaks on the Lord's Supper, helping the congregation to get focused on Jesus Christ. Upon completion of a short talk, usually about **3-5 minutes long**, the speaker will say a short prayer and take a seat on the front pew. . Once the communion has been served, the communion speaker will return to the podium and speak briefly on the subject of giving. That talk will also generally last about 3-5 minutes. The speaker will then say a short prayer relating to giving and be seated. That's it.

**Because Sunday worship services involve several facets (singing, prayer, sermon, announcements, etc) it is important to follow some basic guidelines with regard to time and process. A few things to remember are:**

- Notify the worship leader that you will be doing communion. That information will also be in the bulletin.
- Ask 6 men and/or women to assist in serving communion. Deacon Don Hole is usually available to help you with this if needed. Assign each a row per the row diagram at the end of this guide.
- Keep your comments within the 3-5 minute allotted time. If you feel you need more time, be sure to give the worship leader (song leader) ample heads up so he can adjust the worship time as needed.
- During the offering portion of your talk, remember to welcome visitors and ask them to fill our visitor cards that are located in the back of the pews and drop them in the offering box. Also remind the visitors and members that they can drop prayer requests in the offering box as well.
- You may feel disqualified to speak on giving if you have not been a regular giver. You are not. If speaking about giving causes some discomfort, use this opportunity as a time to evaluate your own situation and begin a giving plan.
- You may feel disqualified to speak regarding communion if you are not living a perfect Christian life. You are not. However, if you recognize change needs to be made, make that change in preparation for your talk. There is no time like right now to get right with God.
- Remember the purpose of the communion service. This is not a toast masters speech or a talk at the local rotary club. You don't get style points. Nobody cares if you are the best public speaker in the whole 3<sup>rd</sup> pew. The purpose of the Lords supper is to bring our focus to Jesus Christ. "As often as you gather do this in remembrance of me."

To help you do that we have provided the following list of 52 passages that focus on the tremendous sacrifice Jesus offered and the gift that we now have through Him. There are surely other passages that would be helpful but this is a very good group to work from. A good way to prepare your talk is to read through a few of these verses and find one that you can relate to your life experience. Odds are that others in the church will be able to relate to your experiences. That can help bring a very personal touch to your talk.

- 1 Corinthians 11:23-29
- Matthew 27:32-40
- Matthew 27:45-54
- Isaiah 53:7-12
- Psalms 89:1-8
- Mark 14:17-26
- Mark 15:33-37
- Matthew 12:38-42
- Matthew 21:1-11
- Matthew 26: 26-30
- Revelation 19:11-16
- Philippians 2:5-11
- Mark 10:32-34
- Mark 11:1-11
- 1 John 2:1-2
- 1 John 4:7-16
- Isaiah 61:1-3
- John 1:29-34
- John 18:36-19:7
- Hebrews 1:1-4
- 1 Peter 1:13-21
- Revelation 1:5-8
- Colossians 1:13-22
- Hebrews 4:14-16
- Luke 23:44-49
- Revelation 5:6-14
- Hebrews 2:5-9
- Luke 22:17-20
- Ephesians 2:13-22
- Acts 3:12-23
- Romans 3:21-26
- Hebrews 5:1-10
- 1 Corinthians 11:23-29
- Galatians 3:11-14
- John 19:6-16
- 1 Corinthians 10:14-17
- Hebrews 6:13-20
- John 13:31-38
- Isaiah 9:6-7
- John 19:16-27
- Hebrews 8:1-6
- Romans 5:6-11
- Galatians 4:4-7
- Romans 8:31-39
- Psalms 72:11-14;17-19
- Hebrews 10:5-10
- John 3:14-21
- Acts 4:8-12
- Mark 15:21-32
- Hebrews 12:1-4
- John 19:28-42
- John 14:1-7

There are many verses in the bible on giving. Below are a few of them that you could consider while preparing your talk on giving. Of course there are many others that would be appropriate too.

Matt 25:35-40

Matt 23:23

Matt 6:25-34

Matt 6:19-21

Mark 12:41-44

Luke 11:42

Luke 6:38

Romans 12:6-8

Acts 4:34-37

Acts 5:3

Acts 2: 44-46

Acts 11: 28-30

1 Cor 16:2

2 Cor 8:2-21

2 Cor 9:5-15

1 Tim 6:6-11

1 Tim 6:17-19

Rom 12:13

Heb 13:16

I Jn 3:17

Luke 18:22-25

Gal 6:6

Acts 20:35

Ps 50:9-12

Prov 11:24-25

Prov 18:9

Prov 22:9

Prov 28:22

Prov 28:27

Deut 16:10

Deut 16:17

# Row Diagram

Pulpit at front of Church

