

THE REALLY GOOD LIFE!

(The Life of Christ Series)

The Gospel of Luke

The Lord's Table

(The Love-Feast of Disciples)

Luke 7:44 - 8:3

This section of Luke's portrayal of the life of Christ concludes the training of the 12 disciples period of Jesus' public ministry. These verses summarize what a true disciple is spiritually inside and outwardly. A Christian who is becoming a disciple of Jesus is a repentant, reverent, worshiper of his or her Savior (as seen in the unnamed woman of *Luke 7:36-50*). But a disciple of Christ is also a dedicated follower, gospel witness, and generous giver to Christ's kingdom cause, as seen in the gospel bond observed in *Luke 8:1-3*.

It is interesting that the occasion of a dinner is at the center of this setting, connecting worship with witness in the life of a true Christian disciple. The woman pictures the 'bride of Christ' (sincere Christians in the Church Age) in worship of our Savior (*7:36-50*). The band of disciples in vs. *8:1-3* picture the spiritually nourished and energized disciples moving out from worship at the table to their work in the world...

Communion with Christ

(‘The Table’ is about Him, not symbols of Him)

Luke 7:44-50

Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head. You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil. Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little.”

Then He said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”

And those who sat at the table with Him began to say to themselves, “Who is this who even forgives sins?”

Then He said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you. Go in peace.”

- Coming cleansed by repentance to the Savior
- Coming in loving adoration of Christ
- Coming in submission to Jesus as Lord

Commitment to Christ

(‘The Table’ doesn’t save us, it inspires us to serve Christ)

Luke 8:1-3

Now it came to pass, afterward, that He went through every city and village, preaching and bringing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with Him, and certain women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities—Mary called Magdalene, out of whom had come seven demons, and Joanna the wife of Chuza, Herod’s steward, and Susanna, and many others who provided for Him from their substance.

- Preaching & teaching the gospel
- Sharing & showing the new you
- Providing generously to sustain His cause



The Lord’s Table is for committed Christian disciples.

The ‘unleavened bread’ represents the sinless Person of Jesus Christ Who bore our sins and punishment for us on the cross.

The cup of grape juice symbolizes Jesus’ blood poured out to atone for and absolve the sins of those who sincerely believe.

According to Christ Himself in *1 Corinthians 11:23-32*, only disciples of Jesus who are living obedient, faithful, fruitful lives should partake of communion. Non-Christians and wayward, worldly believers are to abstain until they repent and reconcile with God.

Disciples of Christ partake of communion and periodically ‘pledge allegiance to the Lord.’ They then worship, witness, serve and give their best to their Savior in all they do.

*And whatever you do in word or deed,
do all in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through Him.
Colossians 3:17*