

*Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal*

## *The Lord's Day Message*

**Jordan Johnson will preach tpday**



Jordan

## **Welcome Brothers and Sisters!**

**Jordan** will lead our **Bible Class**, **Kerry** will lead singing, **Jordan Johnson** will deliver the **Message**. May God bless their efforts!

*Our Lord's Day  
Plan...*

**~ Happy Lord's Day ~**

*But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.*

*I Timothy 6:9*

***We are praying for you!***

**Judy McCollum** - for a safe trip home from Oregon this week.

**Kerry Johnson**-for a resolution to his knee and leg pain due to a work injury.

**Rosemarie Johnson**- for relief form cronic neck and neck pain.

**Cindy Brown** - for healing from her knee and leg injury.

**Sweeti Parichha** - for tptal recovery from her illness of the last several months.

**Church of Christ** - for strength to preach God's Word to all souls.

***~God's Blessings to Everyone!~***

**“HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF A BROTHER OFFERING ONE PRAYER FOR BOTH THE BREAD AND FRUIT OF THE VINE DURING THE LORD’S SUPPER?”**

Raymond Elliott

This was the basic question asked to me sometime ago by a brother in Christ. I told him yes and that I was greatly disturbed and surprised that a brother in Christ would offer only one prayer for both the bread and the fruit of the vine that are symbolic of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

My wife and I, along with family members, attended a small church of Christ while on vacation. When it came time for the brother presiding at the ‘Lord’s Table’, our brother offered only one prayer for both the bread and fruit of the vine. This was the first time in all of my years to hear a brother do this. When it came time for the ‘offering’ the brother thanked God for His blessings and the opportunity for all to give their monetary gifts to the Lord. I thought to myself, here is a brother who chose to offer one prayer for the bread and fruit of the vine, yet he offered a prayer for the offering when there is no specific example of this being done in the New Testament during the assembly of the church to worship God. We understand that we can pray anytime we choose because we are taught in the word of God to be “steadfastly in prayer” (Romans 12:12), and we are taught to give thanks to God. In 1 Thessalonians 5:16,17, we read, “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Thus, it is acceptable for a brother to give thanks for our blessings and for brothers and sisters in Christ to give cheerfully and according to one’s ability to the Lord.

But, let us consider the occasion when Jesus Christ gave thanks for the bread and fruit of the vine. In Matthew’s account (Mt. 26:26-29, NKJV), we read the following, “And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said “Take, eat; this is my body.” In Luke 22:19, we read, “And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” So, when Jesus said a blessing he also gave thanks for the bread. In Matthew 26:27, Jesus “took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave

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it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you." The best commentary on the actions of Jesus when He instituted the Lord's Supper is found in 1 Corinthians 11:23-26: "For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way, after supper He took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes."

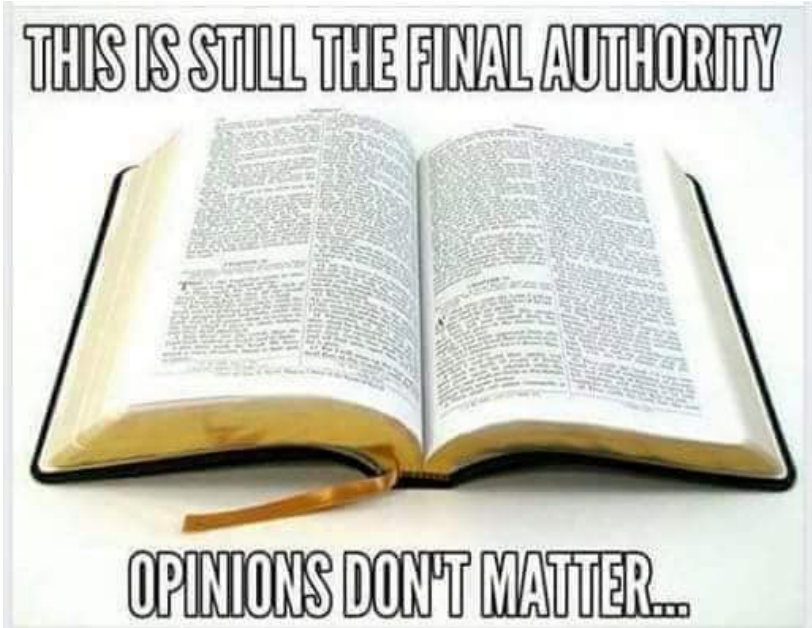
The question should be raised, was the action of Jesus giving thanks separately for the bread and fruit done unintentionally or deliberately? Can we not understand the action of Jesus was intended and on purpose? After all, the Lord's Supper is the center of our corporate worship! Why then, would a brother change the pattern that Jesus set when He gave thanks for each the bread and fruit of the vine? Man's wisdom is not God's wisdom! Why can't we just follow the example of our Lord Jesus Christ when he gave thanks for both the bread and fruit of the vine separately; knowing He was going to suffer shortly on the cross and shed His blood for our redemption and forgiveness of our sins (Ephesians 1:7).

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**He Gave Thanks**  
Rick Laing

Ten times in the gospels, Jesus is recorded as giving thanks mainly at the Lord's Supper and some other meals. The Lord gave thanks before He fed 4,000 (Mark 8:6). He gave thanks to the Father for hearing Him (John 11:41). We also should give thanks when we eat (Rom. 14:6). Thankfulness is an attitude of gratitude. A thankful person is a "tank full" person. Such a person is full of good thoughts and appreciation. It is so much easier to work with someone who is thankful rather than ungrateful. It cuts out a load of griping and whining. It brings out praise and good ways instead. He gave thanks; therefore I need to learn to give thanks.

April 28, 2024



**Meeting Days and Times**

Sunday ..... 9:00 am

Wednesday (via Zoom) ..... Bible Class, singing & prayer - 6:00 pm

*church of Christ at Alisal*  
67 Eucalyptus Drive  
Salinas, California 93905-2728  
Paul McCollum, preacher  
pulpitpaul@razzolink.com  
(831)424-9800 or 206-5568  
[www.churchofchristalisal.com/](http://www.churchofchristalisal.com/)