



CommUNION

A Pathway to Presence

Joy! Church | 2.25.24

We love you. Yes, you

Context

Invitation: Listen to prior messages

With full media: www.joychurch.life

Podcast: Spotify, "Joy Church Fernley"

- 2nd Trimester (Apr 2023 thru 2026), Decade of the Way More of God: **Exodus**
- God wants **His** Church back. Loves fans; focusing on **followers**
- Growing big people **is** growing a big church
- 2024 key words: **Abide. Follow. Abandon.**
- 2023: Many messages on "Follow". More are to come
- 2024: Last several sessions were on "Abide". More are to come
- Last few weeks: "Branch"; John 15, why spiritual disciplines* **now**

*A term synonymous with "Pathways to Presence"

John 15:4-5

Jesus, with His disciples in the upper room during The Last Supper, mere hours at most before His betrayal in the Garden of Gethsemane

- v.4 So you must remain in **life-union** with me, grafted into me, for I remain in **life-union** with you. For as a branch severed from the vine will not bear fruit, so your life will be fruitless unless you **live your life intimately joined to mine**.
- v.5 I am the sprouting vine and you're my branches. **As you live in union with me as your source**, fruitfulness will stream from within you—but when you live separated from me you are powerless.

(Emphases added)

Bibliography

- John 6:35, and 47-58
- John Chapters 10 thru 17 especially verses 13:1-16:6
- Matthew 26:17-30
- Mark 14:22-25
- Luke 22:14-20
- 1st Corinthians 10:16-17; 11:16-33
- Acts 2:42; 20:7
- Revelation 12:10-11



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The story? When we come to the table, there are great truths to **celebrate.**

The Table is a:

- Celebration of victory! *Revelation 12:10-11*
- Proclamation of redemption! *1st Corinthians 11:26*
- Declaration of dependence! *John 6:53*
- Place for loving examination of self! *1st Corinthians 11:28-32*
- Place for receiving provision! *1st Corinthians 11:29-32*

Table Time

Rethinking communion: A victorious reunion
Nowhere is **2 Cor 3:16-18** more alive & active

- 1. Discuss:** In what ways do your past understanding of communion compare with what you heard today? Discuss with your table mates.
- 2. Declare** these things aloud, then partake the elements, together:
 - Holy Spirit, thank you for Your presence. King Jesus, we do remember!
 - We celebrate your victory over the powers of darkness;
 - We proclaim your redemptive works in our lives;
 - We have examined well Who You are and what You are really like;
 - I acknowledge it's not all about me and my life can be all about you;
 - We seek and receive every blessing Your sacrifice for us has provided;
 - We freely give You our full, deep gratitude and ALL the glory!

Save the date!

BAPTISMS

and family fun swim

3/30/24, 4:00-6:00 pm

Easter Saturday

Fernley Pool

