

THE NEW COVENANT



Understand that Jesus made a New Covenant with us.
Think about our part in this Covenant.

The Last Supper → New Covenant

In the Old Testament, when God made a covenant with the Jews (Israelites), they agreed to live the Ten Commandments. At the Last Supper, Jesus made a **New Covenant** with us.



St. Paul tells us what happened.

“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 the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes” (1 Cor 11:23-26).

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- In the books of Jeremiah and Ezekiel, we read of the new covenant which God will one day make with Israel.
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 - *"Behold, the days come, says the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah..."*



The New Covenant

At the Last Supper, Jesus made a New Covenant with his disciples and with us. He fulfilled this New Covenant by freely handing over his life in love to the Father, by accepting death on a cross. He said to his disciples and to us: **"This is my body which is handed over for you. Do this in remembrance of me."** What is Jesus asking us to do about our part in the New Covenant? Jesus is asking us to hand over our lives to him by living out this New Commandment:

The New Commandment

"I give you a New Commandment:
love one another;
just as I have loved you,
you must also love one another"
(Jn 13:34).

Pause to discuss



- At the Last Supper, what did Jesus do for us?
- How do we know?
- What is he asking us to do?
- Give examples of how we can enter into this New Covenant with him.
- How can we live out this New Covenant in daily life?

Activities

1. Imagine you have to explain what happened at the Last Supper to children preparing for their First Holy Communion. Make a presentation or write down what you would say to them. Mention what happened at the Last Supper and why it is important.

2. Make a design or a thinking map to explain the New Covenant. Think about:

- what Jesus says and does,
- what he asks of us,
- what we can do to fulfil our part in the New Covenant.



What do we receive under the New Covenant? We receive:

Cleansing from all sins. *"...the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin."* (1 John 1:7b)

The personal knowledge of God. *"...all shall know Me, from the least to the greatest."* (Hebrews 8:11)

Deliverance from the power of sin. *"Sin shall not have dominion over you: for you are not under the law, but under grace."* (Romans 6:14)

The ability to know and do God's will. *"I will put My spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you shall keep my judgments and do them."* (Ezekiel 36:27)