

PASTOR'S NICKEL

Children & Lord's Supper



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Every so often, as pastors, we get asked questions about things people face in their lives or questions that dig into our understanding of what the Bible teaches or how to apply a principle into daily life. We don't always have all the answers, but our training and ministry focus helps us to give some counsel or insight into various issues. Recently I received an e-mail from a parent asking about their children taking part in the Lord's Supper.

Here is the summary of my response (Reviewed also by Pastor Kevin and Pastor Elly):

1. The celebration of the Lord's Supper is a sacrament where, by a mystery, we are joined with Christ in his body and blood for a renewal of our faith as we seek to live in obedience to him.
2. All who are sorry for their sins and want to live for Christ are invited to participate in the sacrament despite sin that still remains in their lives. (Sinners need the Lord's Supper, not the sinless).
3. God graciously includes children in the Covenant of Faith and so we extend to them the sacrament of baptism because they too are delivered from sin by Christ's blood. By the same reasoning, as these children express faith they should be encouraged to participate in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper for the renewal of their faith. The sacrament also envelops children into a true sense of belonging in the church not only by their baptism into membership in the church but also by their ongoing participation in the sacrament as a member of the body.

That's my nickel. Pastor Bob