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The Meal Jesus Gave Us, Revised Edition
Synopsis

In this introductory volume, perfect for Protestant new member and confirmation classes, acclaimed theologian and writer N. T. Wright explains in clear and vivid style the background of the Last Supper, the ways in which Christians have interpreted this event over the centuries, and what it all means for us today. This revision includes questions for discussion or reflection after each chapter.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

NT Wright is not only an increadibly prolific writer, he also seems to be continually updating his earlier books. The Meal Jesus Gave Us was originally published in 2002 and was revised this summer. Wright is known for his academic publishing, but this is one of his books that is oriented toward the non-professional. If anything this might have been over simplified. This new version is slightly edited and has added discussion questions. It would make a decent study for an adult confirmation class or a small group. The book opens with a short introduction imagining what a birthday party might look like to a martian unfamiliar with human rituals. After a brief discussion of human rituals conveying meaning, Wright spends a couple of chapters imagining what a disciple at
the Last Supper and then an early Christian would think about communion. The second section (the last short 9 chapters) attempts to put some theological meat on the previous imaginings. Because it is Wright, communion is placed in context of early Jewish thought, the kingdom of God, the eschatological vision of Christianity (end times), how communion reflects Jesus death and resurrection and more. Along the way Wright briefly explores the ways that different streams of Christianity view communion, he explores the different names that it is given, and some of the church history and theological issues. The final chapter explores some of the practical theology that goes along with communion. How often should it be taken, who should take it, who should officiate, etc. NT Wright, when this was first written was an Anglican Bishop and this book follows Anglican theology, although non-Anglicans should not be afraid to read it.

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