

The Blessing of the Breaking of the Bread

Luke 24: 30-31 – “...while (Jesus) was with them at table, He took bread, **said the Blessing**, broke it, and gave it to them. With that, their eyes were opened, and they recognized Him...”(disciples on the road to Emmaus, asked Jesus to STOP and share a meal with them)...

One may wonder what the Blessing was...which is always prayed at the moment of experiencing Eucharist, which means “thanksgiving”...“and Jesus said the Blessing...” What WAS “THE BLESSING”?

This exploration of Jesus’ expanded Blessing includes:

Presence / Praise / Petition / Parting

Jesus prayed...

“Our Father in Heaven, we know You are always with us—Your Holy **Presence** is a gift to behold!

You are present in our thoughts, present in our hearts, present in our actions.

We **Praise** You for your wondrous deeds, for Your abounding **mercy** and endless forgiveness. We **praise** You for the **gift of life, Living Water...**with which you guide and nourish us on our way.

Our **Petition**? We ask You to bless this meal and those who prepared it. Also, **please** enliven all those who **hunger and thirst** for the kindness, the goodness and the Love You give so freely.

Bless our togetherness, here, at this table—and also bless us in our separateness, **when we part**—to continue our journeys to serve You—oh, Father, until we meet to gather again. We ask this in Your Holy name, Amen.”

Only after praying this Blessing, expanded above, did Jesus break the bread, the Body of Christ...

Rich Melcher