

- External: How to get into God's Presence. Internal: What it's like in God's Presence
- Table & Bread: 3ft x 1.5 x 2.25ft. 12 loaves bread.

1. A Picture of Service

- Bread made for every Sabbath. Not about seeking to appease God, but gratitude
- Incense (Lev 24:7) offered alongside indicates a thanksgiving offering
- Forgiven people live lives of thankful service.
- True Christianity is motivated by love-filled gratitude
- How is your service in God's kingdom?

2. A Picture of Provision

- In God's house a table is set – a reminder that he feeds his people (eg manna)
- 'Bread of the Presence' = our needs are in God's presence
- 12 loaves = 12 tribes = all of his people are represented and remembered
- God knows and provides for his people's needs
- Jesus teaches his people to pray for daily bread (Matt 6:11)
- Richer significance – Jesus said 'I am the Bread of Life' (John 6:35)
- He is God's ultimate provision for our greatest need, but if he provides the greatest, how will he fall short on the smaller needs (Rom 8:32)
- Do you trust him to provide *all* your needs?

3. A Picture of Fellowship

- A table with food = hospitality = friendship
- Priests ate and drank in God's presence – a picture of closeness and spiritual nourishment
- Points in 3 directions:
 - The Sabbath day – a day for feeding and fellowship
 - The Lord's Table – a place of special feeding and fellowship
 - Daily time with God – a place of regular feeding and fellowship
- Do you look to meet with God and feed your soul at each of these places?

4. A Picture of Security

- Hospitality = a commitment to protection
- Golden rim (v24) = to ensure bread didn't fall off
- Eating together = A covenant ratification meal
- A reminder that God has solemnly bound himself to his people's welfare.
- "I shall lose none of all he has given me" (John 6:39)
- Points to another Lord's Table:
 - Bread & Wine: "This is the new covenant in my blood" (1 Cor 11:25)
 - A solemn assurance that he will come back for his people (1 Cor 11:26)
 - A promise that we will sit with him at a table in Heaven (Rev 19:9)

Notices

Sunday Evening meeting at Day Centre

8pm

Tuesday No midweek Bible Study

Castlewellan Holiday Conference

Forms available for this summer holiday conference - must be in by Saturday 15th February

Inside the Tabernacle

