

THE TRADITION OF THE AGAPE FEAST

The Tradition of our Agape Feast comes from the **Last Supper of Jesus** recorded in John 13-17.

“Now before the Feast of the Passover (Jewish festival) (Lev.23), **Jesus knowing His hour had come** [Crucifixion, Burial, and Resurrection] (Isa.53:4-6; Ps.16:10; 1 Cor.15:3-4) **that He should depart out of this world to the Father** (John 13:3), **having loved His own who were in the world** (Rom.5:8). **He loved them to the end.”** (John 13:1)

Agape Feast: “And **walk in love, just as Christ also loved you**, and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.” (**Eph.5:2**; John 13:34-35)

The Agape Feast is our annual opportunity to inform new members of the three primary reasons we formed Doctrinal Studies Bible Church in 1974.

1st - In 1974, we formed into a local church to teach the Bible by the hermeneutic principle of I.C.E (Isagogics, Categories, and Exegesis) (2 Tim.3:16-17).

(2 Tim.2:15) “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, handling accurately the word of truth.”

2nd - In 1974, we formed to teach the word of God by milk doctrines of salvation and meat doctrines of Christian way of life for spiritual growth transformation maturity (Rom.12:1-2; Eph.4:11-13).

(Heb.5:13-14) “For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.”

3rd - In 1974, we formed to teach a clear gospel message of grace salvation both here and to the ends of the earth (Matt.28:18-20; Acts 1:8).

(1 Cor.15:3-4) “For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, **that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.**”

(Rom.1:16) “For I am not ashamed of the **gospel**, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jews first and also to the Greek.”

(Eph.2:8-9) “For by grace you have been **saved through faith**; and that not of your selves, it is the **gift of God**; not as a result of works, that no one should boast.”

We have always been a commuter church more than a community church. Today our congregation comes from 26 different communities within a 40-mile radius of Birmingham, Alabama, and within the last year, the sound biblical teachings from this pulpit have been accessed by individuals within all 50 states and 137 different countries through our Internet ministry outreach. www.doctrinalstudies.com