

A Place Of Connection (Luke 22:7- 30)
Table Talk sermon series
By Pastor David Hillis, 01.07.18

BIG IDEA: *Jesus values fellowship, because it is in those moments that life is enjoyed and relationships are built to see us through tough times.*

The Table Reminds Us (Luke 5, 19; John 15:12-15; Genesis 2:15-18; Luke 9:46-48)

1. That Jesus values fellowship.

- Throughout His time on earth, Jesus showed the value of fellowship and relationship building, around meals together.
- He values fellowship because He knows we are better together.
- For us to make an impression or have any significance in this life, it takes relationship.
- Through fellowship, relationship starts and continues to grow.

2. That we must be intentional in finding moments to worship God.

- For the Jews, this meal wasn't just to be enjoyed as a way to connect with others, it was also a place of worship, of connection with God, to give Him praise and glory.
- Imagine if we created moments throughout our week to worship God, talk about Him and thank Him, as we sat around a table, connecting with one another.

3. That connection brings conflict but is overcome through relationship.

- Those without a well-established relationship find it harder to survive times of conflict or disagreement.
- It is through these connections, this fellowship with each other and with God, that we are able to navigate tough times in relationships.

MY NEXT STEP: *How is God prompting me to invest in relationships as I start this new year? Who will I reach out to this week and create some time for "table talk"?*

QUESTIONS FOR MY TIME WITH GOD:

1. Reread Luke 22:7-30. Consider carefully the significance of this moment in history. Read slowly and carefully, considering what grabs your attention and why.
2. Read the stories of Jesus eating with tax collectors and sinners in Luke 5:27-32 and Luke 19:1-10. How are these stories similar, different? Why does Jesus eat with people who don't share His faith priorities? Do you have the same value of dining with others, including those who do not share your faith beliefs? How have you made this a priority in the past year? How would you plan to do so intentionally in the coming year?
3. Read Genesis 2:15-18, 2 Chronicles 20:7, Isaiah 41:8 and James 2:23. Why do you think God points out several times in Scripture that He was a friend of Abraham's? What do these passages teach you about God's perspective around friendship and fellowship?
4. There is a great online article about the value of the dinner table as a place of connection, brokenness and blessing at <http://bit.ly/grace-dinner-table>. Read it, in light of the Scriptures you have studied, and consider what God is trying to show you.
5. Next week in our series called *Table Talk*, we will look at how the table is a place of prayer as we consider Grace's 2nd spiritual commitment — having regular, personal time with God. How do you do in this area? What commitment do you want to make in this area in 2018? Share your thoughts and experiences with Pastor Dave in the comments of the "Sermon Notes" card at www.myGrace.church/notes, he would love to know what you are thinking.