A Table for Grace

Table Talk Series Discussion Questions

• Read Luke 14:1-6

- What does Jesus do that creates tension at the dinner party?
- Why would it create tension? Why would Jesus do what he did?

• Read Luke 14:7-14

- What does Jesus tell the guests? What does he tell the hosts?
- Once again, what is the overall point about the kingdom of God that Jesus is trying to make with his audience of religious folks (many of them religious experts)?

• Read Luke 7:15-24.

- What stands out to you about this story?
- What is the purpose of this story as it concerns the kingdom of God and the group of people Jesus is dining with?
- What does this tell us about the Table of God in the coming fullness of the kingdom of God at the end of the age?
- Why does Jesus emphasize the outsider at the expense of the insider? What does this tell us about the salvation found in God?
- The message gave the application that "Our Tables should reflect God's Table" in that from time to time we invite 'outsiders' to dinner with us.
 - How can our offering a table for grace move folks ultimate to God's table of grace in Jesus?
 - Author and discipleship strategist Jim Petersen writes, "I know of no more effective environment for initiating evangelism than a dinner at home or in a quiet restaurant." Do you agree? Why or why not?
 - Why is it often a good evangelistic approach to invite people to dinner before inviting them to a church service?
 - What are other reasons that providing a table for grace (in inviting the spiritually seeking/lost/outsiders) can be profitable for the kingdom of God?
 - What does this tell us about the ministry of hospitality in the 21st century culture we find ourselves in?
- Which of the gospel identities does providing a table for grace best cross paths with? How can we encourage each other (and even join each other) in providing tables for grace to our unchurched friends?