

Reclaim the Table
Shared Table
April 28, 2024

1 Corinthians 1:18-20; 25 For the message of the **cross** is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the **power of God**. For it is written: “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.” Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? **Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?** ...For the foolishness of God is wiser than man’s wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man’s strength.

3 Ways to share a table:

1. We need a table that _____ in the gaps.

Matthew 26:18-30 “As you go into the city...**I will eat the Passover meal with my disciples at your house.**” So the disciples did as Jesus told them and prepared the Passover meal there. When it was evening, **Jesus sat down at the table with the Twelve...**As they were eating, Jesus took some bread and blessed it. Then he broke it in pieces and gave it to the disciples, saying, “Take this and eat it, for this is my body”...And he took a cup of wine and gave thanks to God for it. He gave it to them and said, “Each of you drink from it, for this is my blood, which confirms the covenant between God and his people. It is poured out as a sacrifice to forgive the sins of many. Mark my words—I will not drink wine again until the day I drink it new with you in my Father’s Kingdom.” Then they sang a hymn and went out to the Mount of Olives.

2. We need a table for the _____ and the hurting.

Luke 14:15-24 Hearing this, a man sitting at the table with Jesus exclaimed, “What a blessing it will be to attend a banquet **in the Kingdom of God!**” Jesus replied with this story: “A man prepared a **great feast and sent out many invitations.** When the banquet was ready, he sent his servant to tell the guests, ‘Come, the banquet is ready.’ But they all began **making excuses.** One said, ‘I have just bought a field and must inspect it. Please excuse me.’ Another said, ‘I have just bought five pairs of oxen, and I want to try them out. Please excuse me.’ Another said, ‘I just got married, so I can’t come.’ The servant returned and told his master what they had said. His master was furious and said, ‘**Go quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and invite the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.**’

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After the servant had done this, he reported, ‘**There is still room for more.**’ So his master said, ‘**Go out into the country lanes** and behind the hedges and **urge** anyone you find to come, so that the house will be **full**. For none of those I first invited will get even the smallest taste of my banquet.’”

3. We need a table that turns _____ into friends.

John 4:3-30 So he left Judea and returned to Galilee. **He had to go** through Samaria on the way. Eventually he came to the Samaritan village of Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there; and Jesus, tired from the long walk, sat wearily beside the well about noontime. Soon a Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “**Please give me a drink.**” He was alone at the time because his disciples had gone into the village to **buy some food**. The woman was surprised, for Jews refuse to have anything to do with Samaritans. She said to Jesus, “You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan woman. Why are you asking me for a drink?” Jesus replied, “If you only knew the **gift God has for you** and who you are speaking to, you would ask me, and I would give you living water.” ...Then Jesus told her, “**I AM the Messiah!**” Just then his disciples came back. They were shocked to find him talking to a woman, but none of them had the nerve to ask, “What do you want with her?” or “Why are you talking to her?” The woman left her water jar beside the well and **ran back to the village**, telling everyone, “Come and see a man who told me everything I ever did! Could he possibly be the Messiah?” So the people came streaming from the village to see him.

7 Observations:

- Be willing to _____ a conversation.
- Be willing to be _____.
- Be willing to break down barriers by giving _____, not condemnation.
- Be willing to listen _____ in order to understand deeply.
- Be willing to offer a clear, compelling _____.
- Always remember the road to faith is a _____.

Walk Away: I will pray and ask the Lord how I can _____ my table; I am blessed to be a _____.

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