

Pastor
STEVE STEELE

The JESUS way

AUGUST 25TH, 2024

First

THE WAY OF THE TABLE

INTRO

“³⁴ The Son of Man, on the other hand, feasts and drinks, and you say, ‘He’s a glutton and a drunkard, and a friend of tax collectors and other sinners!’”
~ LUKE 7:34 (NLT)

The Way of _____ .

“⁹ As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at his tax collector’s booth. “Follow me and be my disciple,” Jesus said to him. So Matthew got up and followed him.
¹⁰ Later, Matthew invited Jesus and his disciples to his home as dinner guests, along with many tax collectors and other disreputable sinners. ¹¹ But when the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, ‘Why does your teacher eat with such scum?’
¹² When Jesus heard this, he said, ‘Healthy people don’t need a doctor - sick people do.’ ¹³ Then he added, ‘Now go and learn the meaning of this Scripture: ‘I want you to show mercy, not offer sacrifices.’ For I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners.’”
~ MATTHEW 9:9-13 (NLT)

Jesus _____ those the world _____ .

“¹² Then he turned to his host. ‘When you put on a luncheon or a banquet,’ he said, ‘don’t invite your friends, brothers, relatives, and rich neighbors. For they will invite you back, and that will be your only reward. ¹³ Instead, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ Then at the resurrection of the righteous, God will reward you for inviting those who could not repay you.’”
~ LUKE 14:12-14 (NLT)

The Way of _____ .

“⁷ Now the Festival of Unleavened Bread arrived, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed. ⁸ Jesus sent Peter and John ahead and said, ‘Go and prepare the Passover meal, so we can eat it together.’
⁹ ‘Where do you want us to prepare it?’ they asked him.
¹⁰ He replied, ‘As soon as you enter Jerusalem, a man carrying a pitcher of water will meet you. Follow him. At the house he enters, ¹¹ say to the owner, ‘The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room where I can eat the Passover meal with my disciples?’ ¹² He will take you upstairs to a large room that is already set up. That is where you should prepare our meal.’ ¹³ They went off to the city and found everything just as Jesus had said, and they prepared the Passover meal there.
¹⁴ When the time came, Jesus and the apostles sat down together at the table. ¹⁵ Jesus said, ‘I have been very eager to eat this Passover meal with you before my suffering begins.
¹⁶ For I tell you now that I won’t eat this meal again until its meaning is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God.’”
~ LUKE 22:7-16 (NLT)

Jesus _____ to eating with _____ .

“¹³ There is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” ~ JOHN 15:13 (NLT)

The Way of _____.

“⁹ When they got there, they found breakfast waiting for them - fish cooking over a charcoal fire, and some bread.
¹⁰ 'Bring some of the fish you've just caught,' Jesus said. ¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore. There were 153 large fish, and yet the net hadn't torn.
¹² 'Now come and have some breakfast!' Jesus said. None of the disciples dared to ask him, 'Who are you?' They knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Then Jesus served them the bread and the fish. ¹⁴ This was the third time Jesus had appeared to his disciples since he had been raised from the dead.
¹⁵ After breakfast Jesus asked Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?'
'Yes, Lord,' Peter replied, 'you know I love you.'
'Then feed my lambs,' Jesus told him.
¹⁶ Jesus repeated the question: 'Simon son of John, do you love me?'
'Yes, Lord,' Peter said, 'you know I love you.'
'Then take care of my sheep,' Jesus said.
¹⁷ A third time he asked him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?'
Peter was hurt that Jesus asked the question a third time. He said, 'Lord, you know everything. You know that I love you.'
Jesus said, 'Then feed my sheep.'

~ JOHN 21:9-17 (NLT)

Jesus offers _____, and a _____.

“¹⁸ Because it was cold, the household servants and the guards had made a charcoal fire. They stood around it, warming themselves, and Peter stood with them, warming himself.”

~ JOHN 18:18 (NLT)

“¹⁸ Now I say to you that you are Peter (which means 'rock'), and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it.”

~ MATTHEW 16:18 (NLT)

So WHAT?

“⁹ They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity”

~ ACTS 2:46 (NLT)

WHO CAN YOU INVITE TO YOUR TABLE?

Who needs to be _____ ?

Who needs deeper _____ ?

Who needs a _____ ?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

COMMUNITY GROUP VIDEOS *available on the APP* |    

- 1- What is one of the most memorable meals you shared with others? (Not the food, but the meal itself) Who was there? What happened? How did it impact you that you still remember it today?
- 2- What was a meal setting where you felt completely out of place? Who was there? What happened? Why did you feel that way?
- 3- Read Matthew 9:9-13. Who would it be hard to invite to your table? What would it take for you to include them? How can we turn our tables into places of belonging where people can experience the family of God?
- 4- Read Luke 22:7-16. If you knew you were going to die soon, who would you want to eat with one more time? Why don't we make more time around the table for those we want to be in community with?
- 5- Read John 21:9-17. Who is someone that you should give a second chance to? How could an invitation to a meal help bring reconciliation?
- 6- Imagine you were sitting at a table with Jesus, What would you ask him? What stories would you want him to tell.
- 7- What are some tangible ways you can open up your table to others?

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