



K I N G D O M C O M M U N I T Y

## Week 6 | May 13 Sermon

### Community:

As you enter into your group time, **would you start by eating together?** It could be as simple as fresh fruit or veggies or as complete as a full meal. As we will hear in this week's teachings, the table is an important element of both community and blessing. It is a level playing field, as eating is a requirement for life for everyone.

Here are some possible ways you might include eating into your GROUP time:

- Invite your groupies to bring something that is representative of or a favorite for them or their family and then share why.
- Get creative and set a theme for everyone to contribute to like Fiesta, ice cream sundaes, dips, all things pie-shaped, make your own grilled cheese bar...the possibilities are endless!
- Ask someone with a hospitality gift (could be you!) to provide the refreshments.
- Go out to eat together.

**Consider hosting your discussion around the table as you eat.**

How is it different to engage with one another in this way? What is good about it?



## EAT TOGETHER

*Matthew 14:13-21; 15:29-39*

The invitation to share a table is a profoundly meaningful one in every culture. The table represents hospitality, inclusivity, generosity and grace.

*Establish weekly rhythms of eating together, as a family and with others. Eat with three people this week, at least one of whom is not a member of our church.*

**SANCTUARY :: Tom Vander Well**

Describe the most memorable meal you've ever experienced. What made it memorable or special?

How many times a week do you share a meal with others? How often is it with family? Friends? Co-workers?

What elements make a difference between a meal that's "just a meal" (physical) and a meal that results in greater levels of relationship and connection?

Do you think that going "all out" (lots of time, preparation, special food, elegant setting, etc) is required to provide a meal that is a blessing to others? Why or why not?

Rev 3:20 gives the word picture of Jesus entering in to enjoy a meal with us. If you were to describe the meal you typically share with Jesus, what would it look like (for example: grabbing some fast food, a convenience store snack while driving where I need to go, coffee time, or an occasional special date in a restaurant)? Have fun with creating a word picture of what your typical "meal" with Jesus looks like.

**AUDITORIUM:: Tim Brand**

"The table is the great equalizer in relationships." How so? How have shared meals enriched your relationships?

Go around the circle and name stories in the Bible where it talks about eating or eating together. See how many you can name. After doing this, how important do you think eating together is to God?

In John 21:1-14, it tells the story of the resurrected Jesus cooking breakfast for the disciples and then Jesus reinstates Peter through the forgiveness process. Tell us about an example in your life where eating together brought a time of forgiveness, love, joy, or belonging.

For you, what is the biggest obstacle in being intentional about eating with someone to deepen relationship? How could you address this?

Who are people you could commit to eating with this week? Is there anyone outside of your close circle of friends? How can this become a habit to invite people towards following Christ?



*Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near. **Hebrews 10:24-25***