

# Jesus....Party of 13. Your Table is Ready.

## Table Manners

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A basic study of the Gospels shows how the lordship of Christ is revealed in everyday and ordinary places. Jesus thrives in “being in the world” while always maintaining an appropriately godly distance from it. Nowhere is this more obvious than how he ate and drank, and with whom he did so.

## THE TABLE

“Now one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, so he went to the Pharisee’s house and reclined at the table.” (Luke 7:36)

## JESUS’ UNIQUE TABLE MANNERS

**Simon’s Table: Luke 7:36-50:** Jesus is God’s agent who mediates.

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“Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little. Then Jesus said to her, ‘Your sins are forgiven.’” (Luke 7:47, 48)

- Do you desire the forgiveness that Jesus offers?
- How is Jesus asking me to “be Christ” to the sanctimonious and to the penitent by demonstrating GRACE and LOVE?

**Zacchaeus’s Table: Luke 19:1-9:** Jesus forgives. Jesus empowers.

T\_\_\_\_\_. A faith encounter at the table with Jesus

T\_\_\_\_\_ that person’s will and priorities

“Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.’ So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter, ‘He has gone to be the guest of a ‘sinner.’ But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, ‘Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.’” (Luke 19:5-10)

- Do you feel led to repent of your own greed and to be empowered to live a transformed life?
- How is Jesus asking you to accept the hospitality of another, no matter how unseemly the host might be, thus, learning something of the grace-filled life?

## § \_\_\_\_\_ YOUR TABLE

“Then Jesus said to his host, “When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brother or relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.” (Luke 14:12-14)

- You must share your table with ordinary people, many of them outcasts!
- How you live it out:
  - ❖ L\_\_\_\_\_
  - ❖ Live A\_\_\_\_\_
  - ❖ L\_\_\_\_\_
  - ❖ L\_\_\_\_\_ without strings.

“...if the first thing shouldn’t be to know people by name, to eat and drink with them, to listen to their stories and tell your own and to let them know with words, handshakes and hugs that you do not simply like them—but truly love them”  
- Henri Nouwen