

Around the Table

A Place to Know Jesus and Make Him Known
A Generous Table | November 30, 2025

OUR COMMON-CULTURAL TABLE

Luke 14:12-14 *Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴ and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."*

Hospitality: "a utilitarian investment designed to return a net gain in status, honor, and influence." Plutarch, AD 40-120

JESUS' COUNTER-CULTURAL TABLE

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Luke 4:18-19 *"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*

Secular and religious culture invites to their table only people from the _____, but Jesus invites to His table people from the _____.

A DISCIPLE'S TABLE

Ephesians 2:1-9 *You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world... All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God's anger, just like everyone else. But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead... God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.*

A disciple of Jesus sets a generous table because they know they themselves are _____.

Matthew 16:27 *For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.*

A disciple of Jesus sets a generous table because they know God will _____.

Reflection Questions:

- Have I come to Jesus' Generous Table? Do I realize that I myself am "poor, crippled, lame, and blind?" (Luke 4:18-19; 14:12-14)
- Am I setting a Generous Table? Am I regularly seeking to bless others who are in need of God's grace, or am I most often focused on my own interests?

Action Opportunity:

Based on what I've heard today from God's Word, I will...

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