



INTRO FOR NEXT WEEK

THE ROLE OF THE DINNER TABLE

PASSAGE OVERVIEW:

During his time on earth, Jesus gained a reputation for being a friend of sinners. To the religious elites, such a reputation was used as a way to discredit his ministry. But in the eyes of Christ such a reputation was consistent with the reason why he came here in the first place. And if Jesus was known to be a friend of sinners, so should we as his followers today.

But how do we do that? The bottom line is that evangelism, loving our neighbors, and reaching the lost with the gospel is intensely practical. And by the grace of God, it's also simple. What Luke 5:27-32 reveals to us is that Jesus used food and hospitality to engage with sinners. He ate with them. He loved them. And he saw them as people who were in need of healing and grace.

As we examine this passage in light of its historical-cultural context, we will see how the Spirit of God reveals that the dinner table is one of the best tools we have in our tool belt when it comes to reaching our neighbors for Christ, especially in an age where people feel more isolated than ever. Please join me in prayer as we seek to become more effective witnesses of the good news!

READING FOR NEXT WEEK

Luke 5:27-32; Mark 2:13-17; Matthew 9:9-13

Jesus' resolve, demands our devotion to go love our neighbor.

I. Want to be followers ... but (9:57-62)

II. All-in followers go the Jesus way (10:1-12, 17-20)

- A. As ambassadors on Mission
- B. Advance in faith
- C. Announce the kingdom
- D. Abound in joy

Excursus: Father's hidden pleasure, our great joy (10:21-22)

III. Religious followers ... but it's all about them (10:25-37)

IV. Extraordinary followers ... go and do likewise (10:33-37)

- A. Intentional love acts
- B. Compelled by Christ
- C. Keeps flowing

How does this apply to me?

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