



1st Edition
June 13, 2017

Newsletter

Staff Outing

Do you like food? Well this is the staff outing for you! We are heading out for a progressive dinner!! It's going to be fun and tasty!

Eat

Food is a fundamental part of life. Eating is something that we spend so much time doing every day. There are many stories in the Bible in which Jesus is eating. Why is that? Because eating is so basic. Because we understand food. Because we obviously know how to eat.

Eating matters to Christians because *who Jesus is* is revealed in his eating. The fact that Jesus eats is remarkable. But beyond that, how he eats is even more remarkable. Because how Jesus eats reveals his mission. The *fact* that Jesus eats shows us who he is. But the *way* Jesus eats shows us why he came.

Jesus never eats alone. In every record of Jesus eating, he's eating with others. He never eats alone. Jesus spent time alone in prayer. Sometimes when others eat, Jesus doesn't, and says, "My food is to do the will of the one who sent me and to finish his work." But when Jesus eats, he eats with others. We never see him eating alone because.....

It has to do with Jesus' mission. Jesus said he came "to seek and save what was lost." And he said that immediately after sharing dinner with a notorious sinner, a tax collector named Zacchaeus!

Jesus could have preached to Zacchaeus while the wee little man was still perched in the tree. Jesus could have just told him to give his stolen money back. Instead, Jesus invites himself to Zacchaeus' house for dinner, because for Jesus, eating has a greater purpose.

It comes down to this. Jesus is seeking Zacchaeus' salvation. Therefore, he eats with him.



Why do you think so much of Jesus' ministry happens around food?

It's because meals are the perfect time to build bridges, heal old wounds, encourage the mourner, welcome the outcast, strengthen the lonely, communicate love and acceptance on a very practical but very profound level.

And because you and I can do that.

We can usher in new life like that.

We can bring heavenly realities to Earth like that.

I'm not saying you don't share the gospel with words.

But I am saying that when I read about the life and ministry of Jesus, I see people willing to believe in God's truth because they're already experiencing God's love.

I see people

First belonging and

then believing and

then becoming what God designed them to be.

And I see Jesus eating with anyone.

Because Jesus' mission is to seek and save the lost, Jesus never eats alone.

May you experience Jesus and share in his mission as you eat with others.

May His Kingdom come and His will be done at your lunch table as it is in Heaven.

-Nathan Oates (Kingdom Come)

Christian Meme of the week



Want to see your meme in the Newsletter? Send them to Edith :)

