



Eating With Others

Jesus shared meals with others on many occasions.

- *John 2*: wedding feast
- *Matthew 9*: dinner with Matthew and his friends
- *Luke 7*: Simon the Pharisee
- *Luke 10*: Mary and Martha
- *Matthew 26*: Simon the leper
- *John 13*: meal with disciples in upper room
- *Luke 24*: two travelers on the road to Emmaus
- *John 21*: breakfast on the beach

Jesus routinely ate meals with people who thought, believed, and behaved very differently than he did.

- *The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and you say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners' (Luke 7:34 NIV).*
- Eating with others helps us to build relational bridges and may be one of the best ways for us to make an impact in this world for Jesus and his Kingdom.

Don't underestimate the power of a shared meal.

- *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. 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 NIV).*
- Our tables, at least some of the time, should be surrounded by people who do not look or think or believe like us.