



As followers of Christ, we are all SENT to those that are not yet followers of Christ where we live, work, and play. The Holiday season gathers people around the table. There is no better time to invite those in our lives that are not yet followers of Christ to share a meal.

In Biblical times, sharing a meal with another was a statement of friendship. It expressed an open door to relationship, your home, and your life. We see Jesus sharing meals with the apostles, tax collectors, sinners, and Pharisees.

Here are a few ways you can connect with those around you (neighbors, co-workers, people from the gym/team). Reach out and let God take it where it goes.

### **1. Open your Thanksgiving Table.**

You have people or families around you that will not have anyone to share a meal with on Thanksgiving. Some may not celebrate this tradition. Consider opening your Thanksgiving Table to others on your street, in your office or to those you have gotten to know where you play. Involve them by having them bring a dish too.

### **2. Host a Friendsgiving.**

If you have lots of family already coming over for Thanksgiving, consider hosting a Friendsgiving on another day. Come up with some get-to-know-me questions for the mealtime. (Where are you from? If you could do anything and know you would succeed, what would you do?) Have each person share one thing or person they are thankful for and why.

### **3. Have a Recipe Swap Night.**

This could be a twist on the Friendsgiving idea. Have everyone bring a dish they grew up enjoying along with the recipe to share. During the meal, have everyone share about the dish (origin, what it means to them).

### **4. Cook Together.**

Involve those that are invited to come early and cook with you. They can bring what they were preparing or help with what you are preparing. Being in the kitchen together provides time for conversation, connection, and collaboration.

### **5. Pray for your Guests.**

Pray for your guests and your time together prior to the gathering. Also, give some forethought to the prayer you will give at the gathering. Use simple language (no sermon) and include thanks for those present. Make it personal and centered around thanksgiving for God's everyday blessings.