



The Church Table

Genesis 2:18; 3:6-10 & Acts 2:42-47

09.07.2025

Brian Lightsey

Most Americans are relationally disconnected and lonely, but this reality was never God's plan.

Genesis 2:18 The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him." (NIV)

God's design is for us to not be alone. We were created to know and be known.

Brain Science: Human beings are hardwired to need physical, emotional, and relational attachment to live. A human needs another human for life.

However, sin created separation.

Genesis 3:6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. 7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. 8 Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?" 10 He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid." (NIV)

Jesus came to reverse the curse by creating unity.

Galatians 3:28 ...you are all one in Christ Jesus. (NIV)

Acts 2:42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. (NIV)

Birth of the Church: The Holy Spirit embodied the people.

The first Christians shared a common and contagious life (*koinonia* – "common, shared, partnership, fellowship").

Christianity began around a table.

Spiritual formation shifted from the Temple in the Old Testament to the Table in the New Testament.

For true transformation, circles ("they broke bread in their homes") are more powerful than rows ("they continued to meet together in the temple courts").

An untabled faith is an unstable faith.

Matthew 12:46 While Jesus was still talking to the crowd, his mother and brothers stood outside, wanting to speak to him. 47 Someone told him, "Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you." 48 He replied to him, "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?" 49 Pointing to his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers. 50 For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother." (NIV)

Our ultimate family is not formed from biological siblings, but spiritual siblings.

There's a seat at the Table for you!

1st BOLD Habit: Be With & Bless Others

Application:

- Join a group.
- Participate in our 1-Year Rally: The Table.

We are engaging in 3 KINDS OF RELATIONSHIPS at our Tables:

**1) Being with the CHURCH beside us.
(3 people in a discipling relationship around a table)**

2) Being with the COMMUNITIES around us.

3) Being with the CULTURES unlike us.

Matthew 6:9 "This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, 10 your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.'" (NIV)

Table Prayer: "Your kingdom come, your will be done at this table as it is in heaven."