



The Community Table

Matthew 9:9-13
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Keith Abbott

COMMUNITY

- not yet followers of Jesus
where we live, work, learn, & play.

TABLE BARRIERS

- Fear and Safety Concerns
- Idolatry of Privacy and Comfort
- Busyness and Overcommitment
- Perfectionism & Image Management
- Self-Reliance Instead of Dependence on God

Matthew 9:9-13

9 As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

10 While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. 11 When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

12 On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. 13 But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners." (NIV)

The community table is a place of: WELCOME

Luke 15:2 But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." (NIV)

Leviticus 19:34 The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the Lord your God. (NIV)

Romans 12:13 Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. (NIV)

Titus 1:8 (Elders) Rather, he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined. (NIV)

Hebrews 13:2 Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. (NIV)

1 Timothy 5:9-10 No widow may be put on the list of widows unless she is over sixty, has been faithful to her husband, 10 and is well known for her good deeds, such as bringing up children, showing hospitality, washing the feet of the Lord's people, helping those in trouble and devoting herself to all kinds of good deeds. (NIV)

The community table is a place of: PRESENCE

Romans 12:15 – "Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn." (NIV)

Galatians 6:2 – "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." (NIV)

The community table is a place of: GENEROSITY

1 Thessalonians 2:8 "We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well."

Ephesians 1:7-8 "In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us."

The community table is a place of: WITNESS

Luke 7:36-50 (Jesus at Simon the Pharisee's house)

Luke 19:5-10 (Zacchaeus)

Acts 2:46-47 – "They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts... and the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

The community table is a two-way table.

As God uses us to extend his Kingdom to others, it takes deeper root in us.

* Who will you invite to your community table? *