

Meals with Jesus (5 of 7) Small Group Discussion Questions

Join our congregation for worship in-person or online at 10:30 am each Sunday via our [Grantham Church YouTube Channel](#). If you ever miss a message, the sermons are always posted to the [recent sermons page](#) at our website and at the [Grantham Church Podcast](#) the following day, along with the small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for staying connected with us!

Sunday, August 21st, 2022



Series Focus: When we look at the life of Jesus, we see that he ate and drank...a lot. So much so that he was accused of being a glutton and a drunkard! Jesus was constantly sharing meals with his disciples, with religious leaders, and with the outcasts of society. This was one of the main ways he engaged with others. And when someone ate with Jesus, they went away changed. In this 7-part summer sermon series, we'll explore the blessings that God provides when we experience his radical hospitality, and we'll be challenged to open our lives to others around the table.

Sermon Title: Discovering God's Good Future

Scripture Reading: Luke 24:13-53; John 21:1-14; Acts 1:10-11

Sermon Focus: Jesus continued to have meals with people even after his crucifixion. Luke tells us that the resurrected Jesus had a lengthy conversation with two disciples who revealed their true thoughts and feelings. They shared all their misunderstandings and acknowledged their disappointment, grief, and pain. And after listening a bit, Jesus then opened their eyes and hearts to God's plan and his good future. In the fifth message in our series, Pastor David invites us to have the same experience at the table.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group in person or by video call. Use the following questions to help *guide* your small group discussion:

1. Read Luke 24:13-53 together. What are your first thoughts and observations about this post-resurrection story? What words or phrases jump out at you? What questions arise from the reading? How does this story speak to you?
2. We can see Jesus pretending not to know what had happened in Jerusalem. It's likely that he wants to know what the two disciples would say about the events and his identity. Also, we can see Jesus like a counselor asking questions for these traumatized and discouraged disciples to share their innermost feelings and thoughts. He asks questions and listens well before responding. What application can we make to our own life from the example of Jesus?
3. In Luke 24:21, we're told that the disciples "had hoped" things would have turned out differently. As they say this, unbeknownst to them, the risen Jesus is walking with them! So, their Lord was alive, and God was bringing about new creation and his good future, but it wasn't like anything they expected. How does this speak to you about dashed hopes, your faith, the way of suffering and resurrection, and how God works his will through your own story?
4. Take some time to discuss each of the "Table Takeaways" with your group. What might each of these look like in your own life and at your table?
 - The table is a place where you can bring your hurt, disappointment, and grief; to be your authentic self.
 - Jesus wants us to ask questions (before making points and pronouncements) and give people space to tell their story and share their pain; he wants us to listen first.
 - Our struggles in this world only make sense by using the Scriptures to expound upon Christ and the good news.
 - Breaking bread with the resurrected Jesus at the center will lead to illumination, freedom, and hope for the future.
 - Our tables at home can be "communion" tables.
5. When are the times in your life (day, week, etc.) that you need to be more mindful and aware of the risenness of Jesus? How can you be more intentional to recognize his presence and walk in his power, peace, hope, and victory?