



The Fellowship

“Christians should be known for throwing the best dinner parties. There is just something about a feast with people that you love that brings joy to the heart. Enjoying God’s provision in a community of people who are created in God’s image is something we are encouraged throughout Scripture to do. Celebrating the Lord and His blessings is encouraged, even mandated, in Scripture because in doing so we are transformed into thankful and generous people. It’s what we were designed to do and to be!”

INTRODUCTION ACTIVITY:

What is the best meal you’ve ever had? Who prepared it? What made it so good?

MEMORY VERSE:

Acts 2:42-47

“42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising

God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.”

SCRIPTURE READING:

Acts 2:42

*“And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the **breaking of bread** and the prayers.”*

Isaiah 25:6

'On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear.'

Psalms 23:5

'You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.'

Revelation 3:20

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.”

Matthew 26:26–29

"Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

Proverbs 22:9

"Whoever has a bountiful eye will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor.”

John 21:9–14

“When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared ask

him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead."

Romans 12:13

"Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How often does your family eat together during the week?
2. How often do you have a meal with someone else? Another family? A group of friends?
3. The early church had meals day-by-day with one another. Why do you think this was such a priority? Was it just a pragmatic response to needs within the church or was it something more? If it was just pragmatic, why was it one of the things they devoted themselves to daily as a community?
4. Tim Chester says in his book, "A Meal With Jesus," that Jesus didn't run projects, establish ministries, create programs, or put on events. He ate meals." Why don't we spend more time enjoying meals with one another instead of doing all of these other types of ministry?
5. How might we live into a biblical type of breaking bread with one another in the modern church?

CLOSING PRAYER ACTIVITY:

Invite someone to close the group in prayer.

