

Practice Hospitality

Simon the Pharisee's table was an exclusive place — mostly a stage to show off his high social standing. In that world, and in most homes in first-century Israel, there was no such thing as an “open invite.” Yet, in this story, we see three people who would never sit together (if not for Jesus) — all at the same meal. And it's Jesus' response to Simon that begs us to consider not just how we will use our tables, but who we are or aren't willing to invite to them.

Read Luke 7:36-43

SESSION 02 — BONUS CONVERSATION

Discuss the Scripture

- 01 What about this story stands out to you, or do you find compelling?
- 02 What do you think Simon the Pharisee judged “correctly” according to Jesus, and what did he previously judge incorrectly about Jesus and this woman?
- 03 How does Jesus’ willingness to forgive debt, regardless of the apparent size, impact how you see the people in your life who aren’t currently following him?
- 04 How do you currently use your home and table as it relates to this practice, and in what ways do you feel challenged or invited through a story like this?

Discuss the Practice

- 01 Share about this past week’s exercise. How did you go about inviting the person you did to a meal, and what did your time around the table look like?
- 02 How would you describe the connection you were able to establish over the meal? What were you initially expecting?
- 03 In what ways does this form of witnessing feel more accessible or challenging to you?
- 04 What would it take for you to make this kind of hosting a part of your regular rhythm? What could that look like?

Repeat the Exercise

For this week, we invite you to repeat the exercise on page 51, or to try the reach exercise there if you have not already.