



## Hospitable Hearts & Homes

### APPETIZER: What have we inherited?

- Early Jesus-following communities

“All the believers were together and had everything in common...they broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts...”

**Acts 2:44-47**

“All the believers were one in heart and mind...they shared everything they had...there was no needy person among them.”

**Acts 4:32; 34**

“...share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.”

**1 Thessalonians 2:8**

- Monastic communities
- Evangelical missional communities

### DINE IN: Who is invited to your table?

**Luke 14:12-14**

Who are the “the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind”?

- Noticeable physical need
- Hidden emotional, mental, or spiritual need
- Poor and privileged

“They can’t repay you” ... so what’s in it for me?

#### World’s Culture

- Independent
- Mine
- Keep

#### God’s Kingdom

- Interdependent
- Ours
- Share

### TAKE OUT: What’s your pineapple?

A brief history of the pineapple as a symbol of welcome.

“*And God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all.*”

**Acts 4:33b**

“*...the Lord added to their number.*”

**Acts 2:47b**

*NEXT WEEK: Did it really happen? A Christmas Investigation*

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## Home Church Questions

### HANGOUT [Warming Up to the Topic – in one Large Group]

1. Review the sermon. What did you find encouraging, challenging or confusing?
2. Ask people to share a time when they felt really welcomed by another person; whether the welcome was for a special occasion or during an ordinary, everyday encounter.

### HEAR [Listening to God through Scripture – in Discussion Groups]

3. Read **Luke 14:12-14**
  - a. What word, phrase or idea stands out to you?
  - b. Do you identify as someone hosting or as someone wanting to be invited to the gathering?
4. Can you think of other occasions in the Gospel narratives (Matthew, Mark, Luke or John) when Jesus shows hospitality to others?
5. Read the following passages about Jesus interacting with people in a hospitable way: Mark 2:16 Luke 19:1-10, John 1:35-39, John 2:1-11, John 21:7-9
  - a. What stands out to you about these narratives about Jesus?
6. OPTIONAL READ: The Meeting House Parents' Blog  
<http://kidsandyouth.themeetinghouse.com/the-picnic-table-in-my-front-yard>

Share your ideas about what simple, yet possibly subversive ways you can be hospitable to other people. As an individual? As a family? As a Home Church?

### HUDDLE [Making It Personal and Praying Together – in Huddles]

7. Take time as a huddle to pause and listen to the nudges from God about who you can extend a welcome to this holiday season. Perhaps you want to invite them to one of our Christmas Gatherings. Share your ideas with your huddle so they can pray for you.
8. Select one or two questions from the huddle sheet. Do you have a copy? If not, talk to your home church leaders.