

# **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		God's Kingdom
- Ir	ndependent	- Interdependent
- N	line	- Ours
- K	eep	- 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."

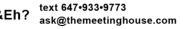
Acts 4:33b

"...the Lord added to their number."

Acts 2:47b

NEXT WEEK: Did it really happen? A Christmas Investigation









### **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?
- 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.
- Select one or two questions from the huddle sheet. Do you have a copy? If not, talk to your home church leaders.

November 25, 2018 / @lisamariegoetze