

Family Dinner Time

So often quarrels and arguments start at the dinner table. A place that's meant to draw people together can easily turn into a battlefield. During this series, we will learn what the Bible teaches about how to deal with Family Feuds. Today, I want to talk to you about the importance of Family Dinner time!

Picture this: Dinner is ready and placed on the table. You call the family to the table... And then it happens.

Series Scripture:

A Family Splintered by Feuding will fall apart Mark 3:25

Family Dinner is about Communion

<u>Communion</u>: the sharing or exchanging of intimate thoughts and feelings, especially when the exchange is on a mental or spiritual level; Intimate communication.

Is it surprising that many feuds and arguments start at the dinner table? A place meant for bonding and intimate communication.

When the time came, Jesus and the apostles sat down **together at the table**. ¹⁵ Jesus said, "I have been **very eager** to eat this Passover meal with you before my suffering begins. ¹⁶ For I tell you now that I won't eat this meal again until its meaning is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God." Luke 22:14-16

He breaks bread and drinks wine.

"But here at this table, sitting among us as a friend, is the man who will betray me. ²² For it has been determined that the Son of Man must die. But what sorrow awaits the one who betrays Him." ²³ The disciples began to ask each other which of them would ever do such a thing. Luke 22:21-23

Then they began to argue among themselves about who would be the greatest among them. Luke 22:24

Peter said, "Lord, I am ready to go to prison with you, and even to die with you." ³⁴ But Jesus said, "Peter, let me tell you something. Before the rooster crows tomorrow morning, you will deny three times that you even know me." Luke 22:33-34

What did the disciples do?

We miss important moments and conversations because of arguments and disagreements at the table.

There's bread at the table and we choose to go hungry.

Stay at the **TABLE**

Through Jesus, we see another way. Jesus could have walked away from the table. We would have.

Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. ¹³ Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. Colossians 3:13-14

Jesus stayed and showed us what it's like to remain at the table.

Broken Bread is Shared at the table

And though we are many, we all eat from one loaf of bread, showing that we are one body. 1 Corinthians 10:17

Communion helps us recognize that we're bonded together through Jesus, and His sacrifice was for us all equally. We are equals at the table.

House of Praise WW Online Notes Pastor Joanne Dean Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends. Revelation 3:20

There's a story called the Prodigal Son. The youngest son asks for his inheritance and wastes all his money in ungodly ways.

About the time his money ran out, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve. Luke 15:14

"When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, 'At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger! Luke 15:17

I will go home to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, ¹⁹ and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Luke 15:18-19

He returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him. ²¹ His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son.' Luke 15:20-21

"But his father said to the servants, 'Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. ²³ And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast, Luke 15:22-23

You're always welcome at the table.

On the night when He was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread. ²⁴ and gave thanks to God for it. 1 Corinthians 11:23-24a

My Next Steps:

| Plan to come Next week for Family Feud Series |
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| Invite someone to Break Bread at your House |

Tithes and Offerings

And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. ⁴⁵ They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. Acts 2:44-45

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Come Back Next Sunday for Family Can Be Hard