



together at the table

DISCUSSION GUIDE

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Introduction

Luke 11:37 states: “When Jesus had finished speaking, a Pharisee invited Him to eat with him; so he went in and reclined at the table.”

This verse portrays a significant moment in the life of Jesus, where he is invited to dine with a Pharisee, a religious leader of the time. It's a moment of interaction and, in many ways, a symbol of hospitality and openness to dialogue.

The podcast 'Together At The Table' is all about inviting Jesus into everyday conversations. It encourages participants to think about how they can apply the principles of hospitality, inclusivity, and meaningful dialogue that Jesus demonstrated at the table in their own lives and discussions.

Let us delve into the exquisite beauty and intricate tapestry of life, as we gather “Together At The Table” with Jesus as our guiding light.



Prayer

Inviting Jesus to the Table

Before we begin the questions let us invite Jesus to our table and with an open heart to listen and share together.



Question 1 - the work table

Talk about the table you work at. What do you do on your table at work?

Take a moment to reflect on your work and how it shapes your identity. Encourage your group or yourself to share your work experiences and aspirations.



Question 2 - family traditions

Share any unique and meaningful traditions that you and your loved ones have at the table, such as favorite foods, books, songs, or quotes that are shared during meals.

Explore the traditions that make your family table special. Think about the moments and rituals that bond your loved ones together. Share these traditions with your group or write them down individually. Consider how these traditions reflect your family's values.



Question 3 - table as a gathering place

In what ways does the table serve as a gathering place for people in your life, whether it's family, friends, or others?

Contemplate how your table becomes a gathering place for meaningful conversations, connections, and celebrations. Discuss with your group, or journal your thoughts on the importance of the table as a place of connection.



Question 4 - table as a gathering place

In what ways does the table serve as a gathering place for people in your life, whether it's family, friends, or others?

Consider how your table brings people together, fostering relationships and meaningful connections. Discuss with your group, or journal your thoughts on the importance of the table as a place of connection.



Question 5 - gratitude at the table

How do you express gratitude at your table, and how does it relate to the way Jesus responded to the Pharisee's invitation?

Explore the role of gratitude in your meals and consider how it aligns with Jesus' response to the invitation. Share your thoughts on gratitude with your group and discuss ways to cultivate thankfulness in your daily life.



Question 6 - hospitality & inclusivity

Jesus often dined with various individuals, including those who were marginalized. How do you practice hospitality and inclusivity at your tables, just as Jesus did?

Reflect on how Jesus, in his time, embraced the opportunity to dine with people from various backgrounds, including those who might have been considered outsiders. Consider how you can follow his example by creating an inclusive and welcoming atmosphere at your table, where diverse voices are heard and valued.

Share your experiences with your group and brainstorm ways to make your table more inclusive.



Question 7 - breaking bread together

Discuss the significance of breaking bread together and the expression of gratitude for food.

Explore the symbolism of sharing a meal and the role of gratitude in this act. Share your thoughts on the significance of breaking bread with your group and discuss how you can incorporate gratitude into your meals.



Question 8 - table as a reflection of life

How do the atmosphere and dynamics at your table mirror or reflect your life experiences, values, and beliefs? What are the rules at your table? How do you prepare for a seat at the table?

Analyze how the atmosphere and interactions at your table reflect your personal journey and core values. Share your insights with your group and consider how you can align your table dynamics with your life values.



Question 9 - leaving a legacy

What do people say about you when you leave the table? What kind of legacy do you hope to leave at your table, and what values or teachings would you want to pass on to future generations?

Ponder the impression you leave at the table and the legacy you aim to create for those who follow. Share your aspirations and legacy goals with your group, and discuss how you can actively instill your values into the next generation.



Question 10 - leave it at the table

If you could leave something at the table, what would it be?

Imagine leaving a symbolic gift or message at the table—what would it be, and why? Share your symbolic offering with your group or write about it individually, exploring its significance.



Question 11 - memorable table moments

Share a specific moment at the table that has left a lasting impact on you and your relationships.

Recall a significant table moment that has shaped your perspective or strengthened your connections. Share your memorable table moment with your group, emphasizing its influence on your life.



Question 12 - table guests

**Who would you like to sit at the table with if you could?
If you could invite anyone, living or historical, to your
table for a meal, who would it be, and what would you
hope to discuss or learn from them?**

Envision hosting a remarkable guest at your table and consider the enlightening conversations you'd share. Share your dream guest and the topics you'd explore with your group, promoting thoughtful discussion.



Question 13 - sitting with Jesus

If you sat with Jesus, what would you say? What questions or topics would you want to discuss with Him, what conversation would you want to have? And what would you want Jesus to say to you?

Imagine sitting at the same table as Jesus, just as the Pharisee did in Luke 11:37. Think about the questions you'd ask Him and the conversations you'd engage in. How would his presence at your table impact your life? What guidance or wisdom would you seek from Him?

Share your imagined dialogue with your group, fostering spiritual reflection and connection.



Question 14 - encouraging others to sit at His table

What would you say to a person who is undecided about sitting with Jesus at His table? How would you encourage them to sit at His table?

Craft a message of encouragement for those who may be hesitant to engage with Jesus. Share your words of encouragement with your group, promoting openness and understanding.



Thanksgiving table traditions

Tell us about your Thanksgiving table and your traditions and what it means to you.

Delve into the significance of your Thanksgiving table and the traditions that make this holiday special for you. Share your Thanksgiving traditions with your group or write about them individually, connecting them to the theme of gratitude.



Christmas table traditions

Talk about your Christmas table and what it means to you.

Explore the blessings of your Christmas table and the traditions that bring joy and meaning to this holiday. Share your Christmas traditions with your group or record them personally, considering the significance of this season in your life.



Contact

We'd love to hear from you, whether you have a story, comment, or question.

Call us at 1.607.96.TABLE (82253) and leave a message

