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[SERMON NOTES]

**Setting the Table for Discipleship - (Matthew 9:9-13)**

- There's an \_\_\_\_\_ invitation for \_\_\_\_\_ to follow Jesus.
- Who you think \_\_\_\_\_ to be at Jesus' table says more about \_\_\_\_\_ than it does \_\_\_\_\_.
- There is \_\_\_\_\_ an open seat for \_\_\_\_\_ at Jesus' table.

**Finding Your Seat at Jesus' Table - (1 Timothy 1:5-7)**

1. Jesus calls us \_\_\_\_\_ from the tables of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. While you can't \_\_\_\_\_ anyone, you can \_\_\_\_\_ the table.

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[QUICK REVIEW]

Looking at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

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[MY STORY]

This week we learned that "table fellowship" was important in the time of Jesus. In many ways, who you ate with was who you were associated with - not too dissimilar to junior and high school days! What "table" did you sit at in your formative years?

Throughout Jesus' life and ministry, he dined with almost every person, from the religious elite to the outcasts and sinners. Why do you think it bothered certain crowds to see Jesus either with a mixed bag of folks? And what do you think is our modern version of being skeptical of *who Jesus would "eat" with?*

Take a moment to **read John 13:35 (cf Micah 6:8, Hosea 6:6)**. What does Jesus say his followers will be known for and why do you think that is?

List out 2 to 3 things you would hope for our church would be known for. Be as specific as you can:

**[DIGGING DEEPER]**

Even though Jesus set the example of table fellowship for his disciples, they still had to adjust from their old ways of thinking someone had to be “ritually clean” and “circumcised” to dine with Jews. (read **Acts 11:1-8, 15:6-21**) What do you notice about the reasoning for gentiles being excluded? And what always seems to be the final result?

The Apostle Paul addressed Peter’s mistakes over table fellowship and addresses them in **Galatians 2:11-21**. What stands out to you about Paul correcting Peter? Try and summarize Paul’s main reason(s) why the old table fellowship rules no longer apply.

We learn that at the heart of living as a disciple is about an *in-pouring of God’s word that leads to an outpouring of God’s love*. One of the ways we talk about it at FIRST is that discipleship takes both head knowledge and heart change. Mark on the scale below where you think you would find yourself and give a brief description why you placed yourself there.

Head Knowledge <-----> Heart change

When it comes to having all of our heart, Jesus has never shied away from asking for it all. Often, following Jesus requires letting go of an old way of life to embrace a new and different one. In the following passages, write down some of the things we are called to let go of in order to live an obedient life towards God: **Luke 9:23, Exodus 20:1-17, Galatians 5:13-26, 1 Timothy 1:3-6**

While we are saved by the grace of Jesus, we are never perfect in this life. What is one area you feel the Holy Spirit revealing to you that you may need to “leave behind” or “deny yourself” so that you can better follow Jesus?

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**[TAKING IT HOME]**

Throughout this series, we’ve learned the importance that Jesus invites us to His table along with our call to invite others to the table as well. For some of us, our next step of faith might be digging more into God’s Word. For others, we need our heart change to be tangibly shown. **Commit for this next month to either: Read a whole book of the Bible AND/OR inviting one person over to your house or to a church service to spend time with them.**