

Texts: Luke 7:36-50

You belong at the table with Jesus

- Luke 5:31 - It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. -Jesus
- “The opposite of belonging is fitting in.” -Brené Brown
- Revelation 3:20 – God wants to dine at your table.

Question for reflection:

What is it that makes it hard to believe that I belong with Jesus?

We don't get to decide who belongs or not

- Belong – Believe – Behave
- Jesus might not share the same frustrations we have with people.
- Jesus wants us to share the same compassion He has for people.

Question for reflection:

Do I have compassion for the unexpected guests of Jesus?

The more we need Jesus, the more we love Him

- Greater sinners become greater saints.
- 2 Corinthians 12:9 – God's power is made perfect in our weakness.
- When was the last time you needed Jesus?

Question for reflection:

How often do I recognize my need for Jesus?

Spiritual practice for November: Hospitality (see the program)

Pray: Lay down any distractions, control, fears, etc. that will keep you from fully engaging in your time together.

Looking Back:

Is there something God taught you this past week? Or is there something that happened that we can be praying about?

What have you been learning by working on the spiritual practice for this month?

Looking up:

Read Luke 7:36-50. Then, have someone retell the story in their own words.

Which person do you identify with most in this scenario and why?

Where do you see trying to “fit in” as being counter-productive to the belonging that Jesus invites you to? How do you see this in your life?

Thinking about how Jesus challenged the Pharisees attitude toward the sinful woman, where do you experience these same judgmental tendencies in your life? Are you growing in this area or stuck?

Which of the questions for reflection resonated with you most? Why?

Pray: Pray for people in your life who are far from Jesus but need to experience His love and grace. Pray for your life group and our church to be a place that welcomes people who need Jesus.

Looking forward:

What step of obedience is Jesus inviting you to take?

Spiritual Practice for November: Hospitality

Spend time in prayer asking God to give you clarity on who you should invest in this month. Be intentional to open your table to them and to ask questions that will help you better understand their life.