

Tabling Justice

Practicing the Way series: Sharing the Table

Sunday message from March 12th, 2023

~ Notes & Reflections ~

- **“If you are a disciple of Jesus, you have been commissioned—not only to see and hear and believe the wounded, but also to care for them, to bind up their wounds and heal their afflictions.”**
 - ❖ How have you been “the wounded”? What was your experience of Jesus followers in that?
 - ❖ What might it look like to be a “wounded healer”? What would it require? How does this relate to being a disciple of Jesus?
- **What cultural or system rules govern our table?**
 - ❖ Who belongs or doesn’t belong at our table? What might our actions or inactions reveal about our rules?
 - ❖ Read [Luke 7.36-50](#). What cultural “rules” do you see in this passage?
- **As a woman in this cultural system, she did not belong at this table (v. 37, 44).**
 - ❖ How does Jesus address this cultural/religious rule? What might we learn from him?
 - ❖ As Jesus saw this woman, Jesus sees you. He sees your exclusion. He welcomes you to the table.
- **As a sinner, the woman did not belong at the table (v.37, 39).**
 - ❖ In what ways might you identify with the woman’s exclusion due to sin?
 - ❖ Regardless of your past, Jesus welcomes you to his table.
 - ❖ What effect did the label of “sinner” have on the woman? The others?
 - ❖ Who have you labelled? How does this affect your table?
- **Sharing the table helps us recognize our shared humanity and develops our empathy.**
- **Jesus offers invitation to both Simon and the woman.**
 - ❖ What did the outer and inner lives of Simon and the woman look like?
 - ❖ Who do you most identify with?
 - ❖ How does Jesus approach each one? How might he be speaking to you in his invitation to them?
- **Jesus sees and knows the darkest parts of our hearts and welcomes us anyway.**
 - ❖ You don’t have to run. You don’t have to hide. But, you do have to turn.
 - ❖ What does running and hiding look like for you? What does it look like for you to turn toward Jesus?
- **Jesus sends the woman away in forgiveness and peace. Then, he stays at the table with the ones who are questioning.**
 - ❖ What is the significance of Jesus sending the woman away and how he does it?
 - ❖ What is the significance of Jesus staying at the table with the pharisees?
 - ❖ How will you respond to Jesus’ invitation to you?
- What statements or aspects of this message bring comfort? Which bring conviction? Take some time to talk to God about what bubbles up as you read/hear and reflect on this message.
- What might God be inviting you into as a response to this message/reflection on sharing the table?