

August 06 | Sunday
Giving Thanks: The Lord's Supper
Read [Luke 11:14-23](#)



07 | Mon – Dinner with the IRS man | Read [Luke 19:1-10](#)

Although we are most familiar with the Last Supper, it wasn't the only time Jesus had significant conversations over food. Zacchaeus was known for his wealth but despised because of how he acquired it. He was also short. His great desire to see Jesus made him throw aside all dignity and climb a tree. Imagine his surprise when Jesus not only stopped to look up but also invited himself to dinner. See how that conversation changed Zacchaeus' life. Have you ever had an important conversation over a shared meal change you in some way?

08 | Tue – Dinner with the Religious Leader | Read [Luke 7:36-48](#)

Jesus was invited to dinner at the home of an important religious leader. During the meal, a "sinful" woman came in and began to show her gratefulness for what Jesus had done. Simon, the Pharisee, was highly offended but the story Jesus told him illustrated the reason for her great joy. Which character do you most identify with? What is the source of *your* joy?

09 | Wed – The Huge Picnic | Read [Matthew 14:15-21](#) and [15:29-39](#)

Not only did people invite Jesus to dinner, he also provided meals for others. On two recorded occasions, Jesus miraculously fed several thousand people with a very small amount of food. Do you think everyone in the crowd was a believer? Did Jesus ask before he gave? Do you sometimes limit your generosity to only those who "deserve" it?

10 | Thu – The Last Supper | Read [Luke 22:14-20](#) and [John 15:11](#)

Jesus' last meal was not a regular supper. It was the Passover meal, celebrated annually as a reminder of how God freed the Jews from slavery in Egypt. Ironically, they were now under a different kind of bondage to the Romans. At the meal, Jesus gave new meaning to the bread and wine as symbols of the sacrifice he was about to make for the world. On this final night, Jesus offered the disciples his joy so that *their* joy "...might be complete." Do you think Jesus wants you to walk away from communion this Sunday with that kind of joy?

11 | Fri – Guilty | Read [1 Corinthians 11:23-29](#)

Some people misunderstand these verses and it can load them with guilt. The real point to understand at communion is that we are all sinners in need of grace. It is to remember the sobering truth of the great sacrifice Jesus made because his great love for us. Communion is also the place where we express our gratefulness and can walk away with great joy. Try to think about these things next time you take communion and see what happens.

12 | Sat – Then and Now | Read [Acts 2:41-47](#)

The first church grew from 120 people to about 3,120 in one day. It is interesting to see how they did life and what we can learn from them. The first thing you notice is they did a lot of things together...learning, fellowship, eating together and prayer. They were generous with their resources, sharing with anyone in need. The meals they ate together were marked with joyful hearts and gratefulness to God. How can you bring the joy you experience in communion into every meal you share with others?