



Dinner with

JESUS

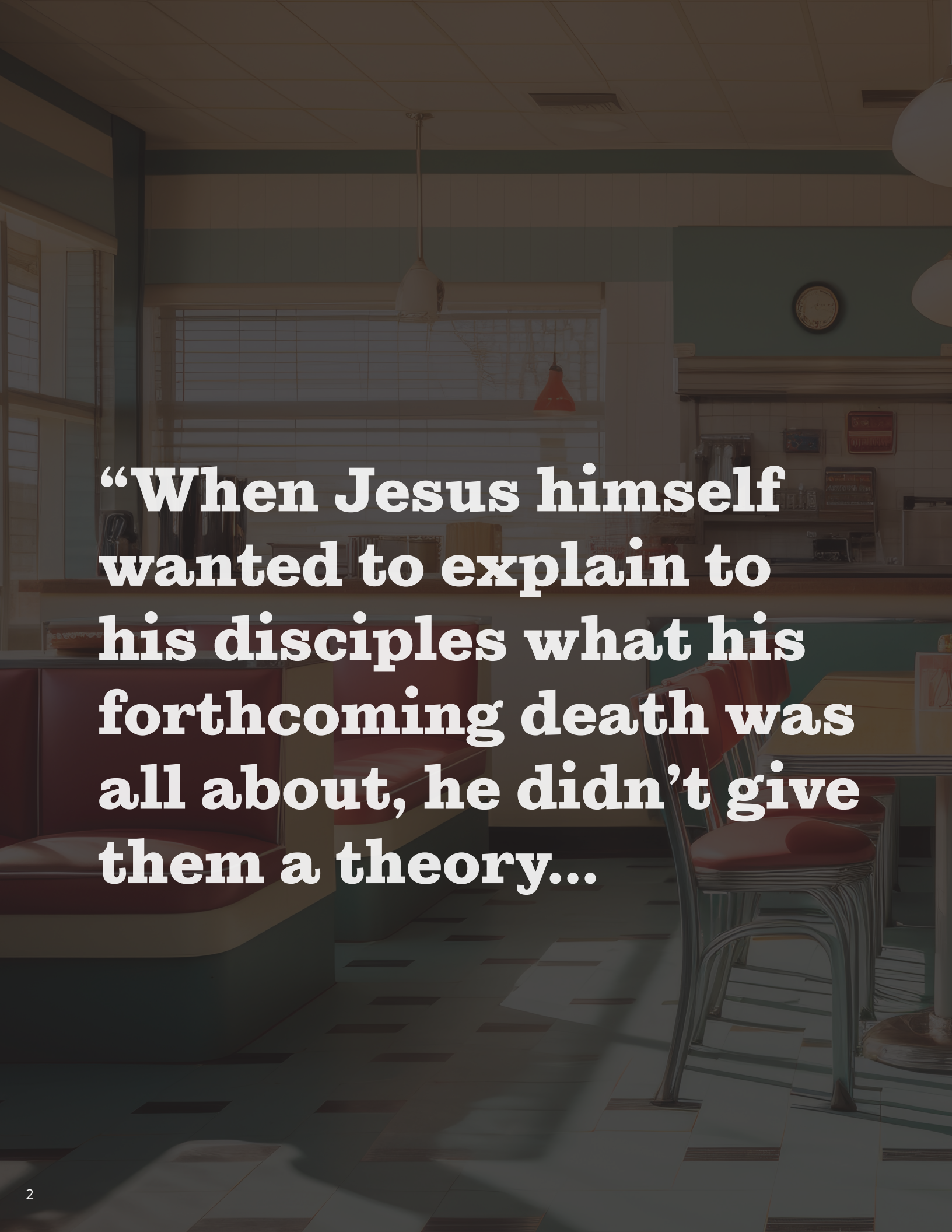
*His invitation awaits
Open Sundays,
9:00 & 10:30 am*



the
water's
edge

Lent 2024: Study Guide

February 18 - March 24



“When Jesus himself wanted to explain to his disciples what his forthcoming death was all about, he didn’t give them a theory…”

A vintage diner interior with a counter, stools, and booths. The scene is dimly lit, with a warm, brownish tint. In the foreground, there are several red vinyl stools with chrome frames. To the right, there are red vinyl booths with white trim. In the background, a counter holds various items like a coffee maker, a blender, and a clock. A window with blinds is visible behind the counter.

**He gave
them a meal.”**

-N.T. Wright

WEEK 1

Wedding at Cana

Drinks

If Jesus turned water into wine, imagine what He could do with you.

Shareables

1. Share a personal experience of a wedding where things didn't go according to plan.
2. Share about a time you experienced or witnessed a miracle.

Main Course

The next day there was a wedding celebration in the village of Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the celebration. The wine supply ran out during the festivities, so Jesus' mother told him, "They have no more wine."

"Dear woman, that's not our problem," Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come." But his mother told the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Standing nearby were six stone water jars, used for Jewish ceremonial washing. Each could hold twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus told the servants, "Fill the jars with water." When the jars had been filled, he said, "Now dip some out, and take it to the master of ceremonies." So the servants followed his instructions.

When the master of ceremonies tasted the water that was now wine, not knowing where it had come from (though, of course, the servants knew), he called the bridegroom over. "A host always serves the best wine first," he said. "Then, when everyone has had a lot to drink, he brings out the less expensive wine. But you have kept the best until now!"

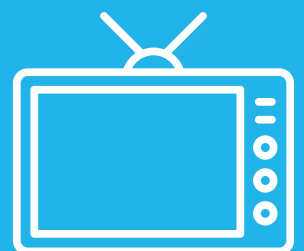
This miraculous sign at Cana in Galilee was the first time Jesus revealed his glory. And his disciples believed in him.

-John 2:1-11 (NLT)

SIDE DISH

Watch this week's video on [YouTube.com/weomaha](https://www.youtube.com/weomaha)

Playlists >
Dinner with Jesus >
Week 1



Make it a Combo



This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

-2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

How do you hope Jesus will change you over the next six weeks? What part of your old life needs to be gone so a new life can begin?

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Share your response with your House Church, family, or a friend as you are comfortable.

Desserts

1. This was Jesus' first miracle. Why do you think He chose to reveal his power in this way and at this event? What does this miracle teach us about Jesus' power?

2. Hospitality was a big deal in Jesus' time. Hospitality failures could affect the bride and groom's reputations and social standing in the community for years to come. They likely felt hopeless about ever recovering from this mistake. Is there an area of your life that you've come to believe you'll never be able to change? Why do you believe this?

3. Share about a personal experience of transformation or change brought about by Jesus in your own life.

4. Jesus turned water into wine because His mother asked him to help. How can we actively invite Jesus into our lives to bring about transformative change?

5. Jesus took six stone jars of water and changed them into wine. He used the resources available to transform this wedding celebration. What are some existing resources or tools you have that could help create personal changes or growth over the next six weeks?

6. Jesus worked through servants to change water into wine. How does Jesus work through other people to create change in us?

7. Jesus did more than provide additional wine for the party. He provided wine that exceeded all expectations. Go back to your "Make it a Combo" response. How can you rewrite this to make it a God-sized dream that exceeds your expectations?

TAKEAWAY & DELIVERY

1. Write your "Make it a Combo" change statement on your "Water into Wine" card or another piece of paper. Place it somewhere you will see it regularly.

2. Write a short prayer inviting Jesus to turn water into wine in your life.

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3. In order for Jesus to change us, we need to maintain a meaningful relationship with him. The Daily Specials are practices that can help us do this. Commit to practicing these Daily Specials for the next six weeks.

“ *In the crushing
In the pressing
You are making new wine
In the soil
I now surrender
You are breaking
new ground* ”

New Wine - Hillsong Worship

Reservations

What did I take away from this week's study?
Who do I need to pray for this week?

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Daily Specials

SUNDAY

Worship In-Person or Online

What is one takeaway from this week's sermon?

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MONDAY

Prayer

God, You turned water into wine. Today, I need Your power in my life to

change into

TUESDAY

Scripture

Read John 2:1-11. What is one personal takeaway from this story?

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WEDNESDAY

Confession/Forgiveness Practice

God, I confess I have not trusted in Your power with...

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God, help me receive Your forgiveness.

Amen.

(Also - Join us for Table Talk on The Water's Edge Facebook at noon!)

THURSDAY

Simplicity

Fast from worrying today. Every time you find yourself worrying, try repeating,

"God, I'm trusting You with this."

FRIDAY

Silence

Start small. Spend 5 minutes in silence without any distractions. Try to keep your mind clear and focus on hearing from God.

SATURDAY

Serve

Who is someone in your life needing to experience God's power? Serve them by sending an encouraging text or giving them a call.

WEEK 2

Dinner with Zacchaeus

Shareables

1. Have you ever climbed a tree before?
What was that like for you?
2. Have you ever had anybody invite themselves over to your house?
What was that like for you?

Drinks

Grace means that all of your mistakes now serve a purpose instead of serving shame.

-Brene Brown

Main Course

Jesus was going through Jericho, where a man named Zacchaeus lived. He was in charge of collecting taxes and was very rich. Jesus was heading his way, and Zacchaeus wanted to see what he was like. But Zacchaeus was a short man and could not see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree.

When Jesus got there, he looked up and said, "Zacchaeus, hurry down! I want to stay with you today." Zacchaeus hurried down and gladly welcomed Jesus.

Everyone who saw this started grumbling, "This man Zacchaeus is a sinner! And Jesus is going home to eat with him."

Later that day Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "I will give half of my property to the poor. And I will now pay back four times as much to everyone I have ever cheated."

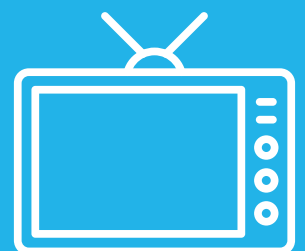
Jesus said to Zacchaeus, "Today you and your family have been saved, because you are a true son of Abraham. The Son of Man came to look for and to save people who are lost."

-Luke 19:1-10 (CEV)

SIDE DISH

Watch this week's video on [YouTube.com/weomaha](https://www.youtube.com/weomaha)

Playlists >
Dinner with Jesus >
Week 2



Make it a Combo



So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him.

-Luke 15:20 (NLT)

God pursued Zacchaeus. God pursued the Prodigal Son. God relentlessly chases each of us. What are some of the ways God has pursued you in the past? How have you resisted a deeper relationship with God?

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Share your response with your House Church, family, or a friend as you are comfortable.

Desserts

1. Why do you think Zacchaeus felt compelled to see Jesus, even going so far as to climb a tree? Why do you think he wanted to connect with Jesus?
2. Zacchaeus was a corrupt, powerful person and an outcast in society. How does Jesus' pursuit of him challenge our preconceived notions of who is deserving of God's love and grace? What does this mean for you?
3. Reflecting on your own past, are there any experiences or choices you feel could hinder or limit your ability to have a deeper relationship with Jesus? How does this story offer you hope?
4. Jesus not only sought Zacchaeus, but also invited himself into his home. How does this demonstrate Jesus' readiness to enter our lives, regardless of our previous actions or reputation?
5. Zacchaeus pledged to give half of his possessions to the poor and repay those he had cheated fourfold. What can we learn from his response about the impact of encountering Jesus on our attitudes towards material possessions and our relationships with others?
6. The crowd in the story criticizes Jesus for associating with a sinner like Zacchaeus. Why do you think people sometimes struggle with accepting that Jesus seeks to reconcile with those who have made mistakes?
7. Have you ever experienced Jesus seeking you out in a particular situation or season of your life? How did that impact your faith and relationship with Him?
8. How can we practically apply the principle of seeking and inviting others into a deeper relationship with Jesus?

TAKEAWAY & DELIVERY

1. Zacchaeus couldn't see Jesus, so he climbed a tree. What is preventing you from seeing Jesus clearly in your life right now?

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2. What next step will you take to see Jesus better this week?

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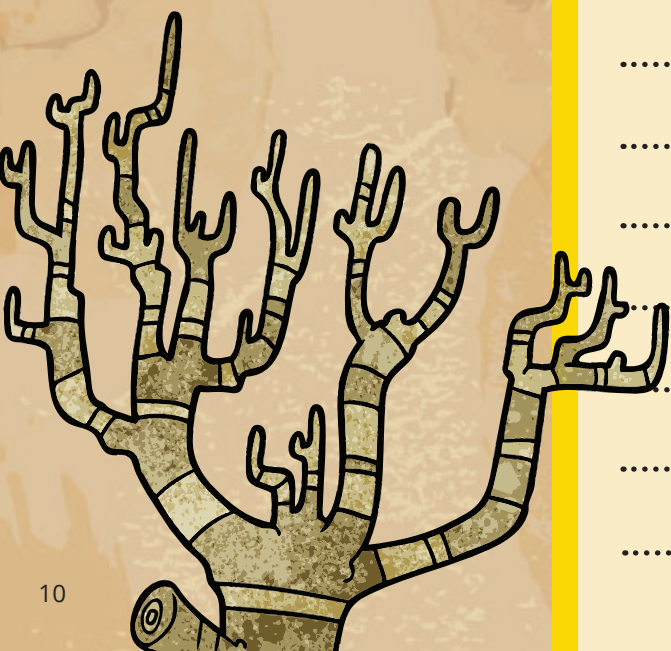
3. Jesus invited himself into Zacchaeus' life and Zacchaeus accepted the invite. In what area of your life is Jesus seeking a deeper invitation to be a part of?

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4. How will you invite Jesus into this area of your life?

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Long before Zacchaeus couldn't see Jesus, the tree was already planted to meet his need.



Reservations

What did I take away from this week's study?
Who do I need to pray for this week?

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Daily Specials

SUNDAY

Worship In-Person or Online

What is one takeaway from this week's sermon?

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MONDAY

Prayer

God, You invited yourself into Zacchaeus' house. Today, I need more of You in my life so that I can move from to
Amen.

TUESDAY

Scripture

Read Luke 19:1-10. What is one personal takeaway from this story?

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WEDNESDAY

Confession/Forgiveness Practice

God, You have continually invited Yourself into my life and I confess I resisted many of these attempts by
God, help me receive Your forgiveness and welcome You freely and fully.
Amen.

(Also - Join us for Table Talk on The Water's Edge Facebook at noon!)

THURSDAY

Simplicity

Fast from practicing guilt and shame. When you find yourself in these places, keep remembering that Jesus came to seek and save us from our sins.

FRIDAY

Silence

Build on last week and try to spend 7 minutes in silence without any distractions. Do your best to keep your mind clear and focus on listening to God.

SATURDAY

Serve

Seek somebody who may be far from God. Reach out to that person. Ask how you can pray for them.

WEEK 3

Drinks

True religion is not a mere outward show, but a life transformed from within.

- Charles Spurgeon

Dinner with the Pharisees

Shareables

1. Share about a time you experienced a “Don’t meet your heroes” moment. A time when someone you admired from afar turned out to be different than you expected.
2. Who is a person you admire for their integrity? What specific qualities or actions make you believe they possess a strong sense of integrity?

Main Course

As Jesus was speaking, one of the Pharisees invited him home for a meal. So he went in and took his place at the table. His host was amazed to see that he sat down to eat without first performing the hand-washing ceremony required by Jewish custom. Then the Lord said to him, “You Pharisees are so careful to clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside you are filthy—full of greed and wickedness! Fools! Didn’t God make the inside as well as the outside? So clean the inside by giving gifts to the poor, and you will be clean all over.”

“What sorrow awaits you Pharisees! For you are careful to tithe even the tiniest income from your herb gardens, but you ignore justice and the love of God. You should tithe, yes, but do not neglect the more important things.”

“What sorrow awaits you Pharisees! For you love to sit in the seats of honor in the synagogues and receive respectful greetings as you walk in the marketplaces. Yes, what sorrow awaits you! For you are like hidden graves in a field. People walk over them without knowing the corruption they are stepping on.”

“Teacher,” said an expert in religious law, “you have insulted us, too, in what you just said.”

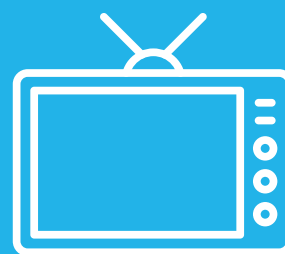
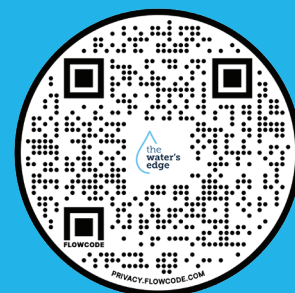
“Yes,” said Jesus, “what sorrow also awaits you experts in religious law! For you crush people with unbearable religious demands, and you never lift a finger to ease the burden.

-Luke 11:37-46 (NLT)

SIDE DISH

Watch this week’s video on [YouTube.com/weomaha](https://www.youtube.com/weomaha)

Playlists >
Dinner with Jesus >
Week 3



Make it a Combo



Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ.

-Galatians 1:10 (NIV)

What are some examples of things we do to try to win the approval of people that may not be pleasing to God?

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Share your response with your House Church, family, or a friend as you are comfortable.

Desserts

1. In this story, Jesus critiques the Pharisees for obsessing over trivial matters and neglecting more important things. How would you summarize what Jesus considers trivial or less significant, as opposed to more important matters?

2. How would you define integrity? How can someone live with integrity?

3. What actions or behaviors do we engage in to “clean the outside of the cup” or project a positive image and improve our outward appearance?

4. What are some practices or actions we can take to “clean the inside of the cup” or cultivate spiritual growth and improve our inner reality?

5. In your own life, would you say you spend more time cleaning the outside of the cup or the inside?

6. Why do you think people tend to be more concerned about external appearances and perceptions than inner realities?

7. How can we become people who are more focused on our inner growth and transformation and less concerned with outward appearances?

God leads us to integrity meaning that our inner spiritual life informs our external words and actions.

TAKEAWAY & DELIVERY

1. What area of your inner life or character, whether it be spiritual, emotional, or mental, would you like to see growth or transformation in?

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2. What is one next step you will take this week to begin that transformation or growth?

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Reservations

What did I take away from this week's study?
Who do I need to pray for this week?

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Christ is our model. Our aim is not to benefit from Him, but to resemble Him.

-Søren Kierkegaard

Daily Specials

SUNDAY

Worship In-Person or Online

What is one takeaway from this week's sermon?

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MONDAY

Prayer

God, I want to prioritize what is important to You and care less about what is trivial. Help me to care less about and prioritize Amen.

TUESDAY

Scripture

Read Luke 11:37-46. What is one personal takeaway from this story?

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WEDNESDAY

Confession/Forgiveness Practice

God, I confess I have focused on trying to win the approval of people instead of You by

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God, help me receive Your forgiveness. Amen.

(Also - Join us for Table Talk on The Water's Edge Facebook at noon!)

THURSDAY

Simplicity

Focus on what matters today. Pass on two or three good activities so you can spend more time on one great activity.

FRIDAY

Silence

Take the next step in practicing silence. Spend 9 minutes in silence without any distractions. Try to keep your mind clear and focus on hearing from God.

SATURDAY

Serve

Integrity is doing what's right even when no one is looking. Serve someone today without worrying about getting credit or being recognized.

WEEK 4

Feeding the 5,000

Drinks

It was a miracle when Jesus multiplied the fish and loaves and fed thousands. He did this to show people that he can take what we give Him and do miracles in our lives.

Shareables

1. Do you like fish? If not, why not? If so, what kind of fish is your favorite?
2. Are you a leftovers person? What is your favorite food to eat as leftovers?

Main Course

As soon as Jesus heard the news, he left in a boat to a remote area to be alone. But the crowds heard where he was headed and followed on foot from many towns. Jesus saw the huge crowd as he stepped from the boat, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

That evening the disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves."

But Jesus said, "That isn't necessary—you feed them."

"But we have only five loaves of bread and two fish!" they answered.

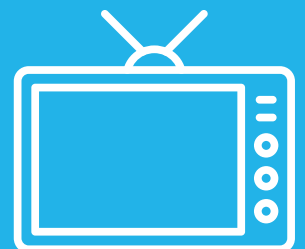
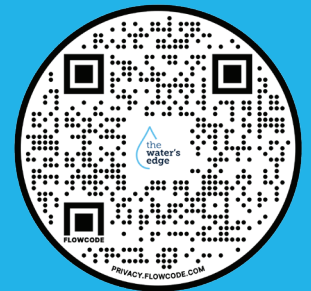
"Bring them here," he said. Then he told the people to sit down on the grass. Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up toward heaven, and blessed them. Then, breaking the loaves into pieces, he gave the bread to the disciples, who distributed it to the people. They all ate as much as they wanted, and afterward, the disciples picked up twelve baskets of leftovers. About 5,000 men were fed that day, in addition to all the women and children!

-Luke 11:37-46 (NLT)

SIDE DISH

Watch this week's video on [YouTube.com/weomaha](https://www.youtube.com/weomaha)

Playlists >
Dinner with Jesus >
Week 4



Make it a Combo



"I tell you the truth, if you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it would move. Nothing would be impossible."

-Matthew 17:20 (NLT)

Share about a time when you felt you only had a little faith, but God did something big anyway.

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Share your response with your House Church, family, or a friend as you are comfortable.

Desserts

1. Jesus wasn't planning on being with people, but they pursued Him. How can we follow Jesus with the same determination?

2. Jesus was trying to be alone, but later He wanted the crowds to stay with him. Why do you think Jesus didn't want to send the crowds away?

3. The disciples had a limited perspective on possibilities for dinner. Jesus had a miracle perspective. What current issue or problem are you facing where you might be seeking solutions from a limited, human perspective? What solutions might be possible with God's power?

4. Jesus didn't do this miracle alone. The disciples participated in the miracle too. How can we actively participate in the miracles Jesus is working around us?

5. Everyone was full and there was still leftover food. In what ways has God abundantly provided for you beyond what you expected or needed?

6. The disciples feared what they had wouldn't be enough. Have you ever felt like what you had to offer God wasn't enough? Why did you feel this way?

7. The loaves and fish were more than enough for Jesus to work with. What are some ways you could offer God your time, talents, or resources? How might God multiply your offering?

Love is like five loaves of bread and two fish. It only multiplies when you give it all away.

TAKEAWAY & DELIVERY

1. What time, talent or resource will you offer to God this week? How will you do this? Pray that God will bless and multiply your efforts.

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2. In which area of your life do you struggle with feelings of not having enough or being enough?

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3. How can you surrender the above area to God, trusting that He will bless and multiply it beyond your expectations?

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God never gives you a dream that matches



He doesn't check your bank account. He's checking your faith.

Reservations

What did I take away from this week's study?
Who do I need to pray for this week?

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Daily Specials

SUNDAY

Worship In-Person or Online

What is one takeaway from this week's sermon?

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MONDAY

Prayer

God, Take my offering of

and multiply it beyond my wildest dreams.

Amen.

TUESDAY

Scripture

Read Luke 11:37-46. What is one personal takeaway from this story?

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WEDNESDAY

Confession/Forgiveness Practice

God, I confess I have not trusted in You and worried about not having enough

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God, help me receive Your forgiveness and experience the abundance around me. Amen.

(Also - Join us for Table Talk on The Water's Edge Facebook at noon!)

THURSDAY

Simplicity

Fast from one meal today. During that mealtime, pray and reflect on all the ways God has abundantly provided for you.

FRIDAY

Silence

Build on last week and spend 11 minutes in silence without any distractions.

Do your best to keep your mind clear and focus on listening to God.

SATURDAY

Serve

Feed someone today. Bring them a favorite meal, dessert, or drink.

WEEK 5

Great Banquet

Drinks

Jesus says there is room for more people at the party. Who are you inviting to God's Kingdom?

Shareables

1. What is the best excuse you have given to get out of going to a party you didn't want to attend?
2. Have you ever not wanted to go to a party, ended up going, and had a great time? What was that like for you?

Main Course

Hearing this, a man sitting at the table with Jesus exclaimed, "What a blessing it will be to attend a banquet in the Kingdom of God!"

Jesus replied with this story: "A man prepared a great feast and sent out many invitations. When the banquet was ready, he sent his servant to tell the guests, 'Come, the banquet is ready.' But they all began making excuses. One said, 'I have just bought a field and must inspect it. Please excuse me.' Another said, 'I have just bought five pairs of oxen, and I want to try them out. Please excuse me.' Another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.'

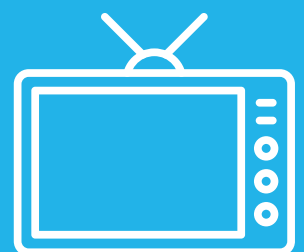
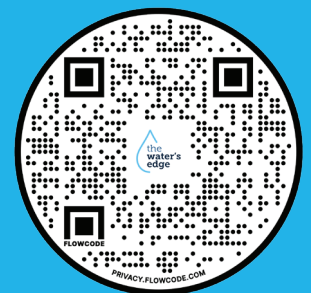
"The servant returned and told his master what they had said. His master was furious and said, 'Go quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and invite the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.' After the servant had done this, he reported, 'There is still room for more.' So his master said, 'Go out into the country lanes and behind the hedges and urge anyone you find to come, so that the house will be full. For none of those I first invited will get even the smallest taste of my banquet.'"

-Luke 14:15-24 (CEV)

SIDE DISH

Watch this week's video on [YouTube.com/weomaha](https://www.youtube.com/weomaha)

Playlists >
Dinner with Jesus >
Week 5



Make it a Combo



If you are thirsty, come here; come, there's water for all. Whoever is poor and penniless can still come and buy the food I sell. There's no cost—here, have some food, hearty and delicious, and beverages, pure and good.

-Isaiah 55:1 (Voice)

God invites us to His Kingdom. How have you experienced the abundance of God's Kingdom? What are some ways you are sharing this abundance?

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Share your response with your House Church, family, or a friend as you are comfortable.

Desserts

1. What are some reasons the people invited to the party choose not to attend? What are some of the reasons you don't more fully participate in God's Kingdom?
2. What does the parable teach us about who is welcome in God's Kingdom?
3. How does the parable highlight the importance of sharing our faith? In what ways have you personally shared your faith with others?
4. Materialism was one of the reasons people didn't come to the banquet. How do you think our society's obsession with material possessions can hinder our ability to participate in God's Kingdom?
5. Busyness was another reason people didn't come to the banquet. How does our society's chronic busyness hinder our ability to share our faith?
6. What barriers do you face in sharing your faith?
7. How can we effectively communicate the joy and peace of a relationship with Christ when sharing our faith? How do you discern when and with whom to share your faith?
8. What role does hospitality play in sharing our faith, as presented in the parable?
9. How has faith sharing been a blessing in your life as a recipient or a faith sharer?
10. How can we encourage and support one another within our group to step out of our comfort zones when sharing our faith?

TAKEAWAY & DELIVERY

1. The first people invited to the banquet in the parable were too busy and distracted to attend. What is distracting you from participating more fully in God's Kingdom?

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2. What next step will you take this week to limit this distraction and focus more on God?

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3. The servants were told to go to the alleys, behind the hedges, and to the country lanes to invite more people to the banquet. Who are some people you are going to invite to participate in the life of the church?

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Don't blame the distractions or your busyness. Improve your **FOCUS.**



Reservations

What did I take away from this week's study?
Who do I need to pray for this week?

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Daily Specials

SUNDAY

Worship In-Person or Online

What is one takeaway from this week's sermon?

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MONDAY

Prayer

God, You invite me to the banquet. Today, move me from distractions like
to a better place of so that I can be more present with You.
Amen.

TUESDAY

Scripture

Read Luke 14:15-24. What is one personal takeaway from this story?

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WEDNESDAY

Confession/Forgiveness Practice

God, You continually invite me to Your banquet. I confess I have not participated in the party
because I've been..... God, help me receive Your forgiveness and
attend your great banquet as one devoted to You.
Amen.

(Also - Join us for Table Talk on The Water's Edge Facebook at noon!)

THURSDAY

Simplicity

Fast from distraction. Take the day off from social media or something else that keeps
you distant from God. Reclaim the time and energy to rest, serve, and/or connect to God.

FRIDAY

Silence

Build on last week and spend 13 minutes in silence without any distractions.
Do your best to keep your mind clear and focus on listening to God.

SATURDAY

Serve

Invite somebody to the great banquet—a worship service or some other activity at
the church.

WEEK 6

Woman Anoints Jesus' Feet

Drinks

Every time God forgives us, God is saying that God's own rules do not matter as much as the relationship that God wants to create with us.

- Richard Rohr

Shareables

1. What is your most valuable material possession? What would it take for you to give it up?
2. On a scale of 1 to 10, how readily do you apologize to others? 1 being "I strongly dislike saying I'm sorry". 10 being "I'm always the first to apologize".

Main Course

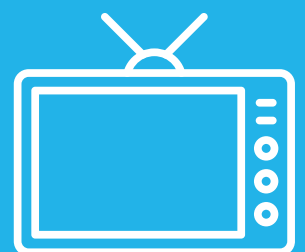
A Pharisee asked Jesus to have dinner. When a certain immoral woman from that city heard he was eating there, she brought a beautiful alabaster jar filled with expensive perfume. Then she knelt behind him at his feet, weeping. Her tears fell on his feet, and she wiped them off with her hair. Then she kept kissing his feet and putting perfume on them. When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know what kind of woman is touching him. She's a sinner!" Then Jesus told him this story: "A man loaned money to two people—500 pieces of silver to one and 50 pieces to the other. But neither of them could repay him, so he kindly forgave them both, canceling their debts. Who do you suppose loved him more after that?" Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the larger debt." "That's right," Jesus said. Then he turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Look at this woman kneeling here. When I entered your home, you didn't offer me water to wash the dust from my feet, but she has washed them with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You didn't greet me with a kiss, but from the time I first came in, she has not stopped kissing my feet. You neglected the courtesy of olive oil to anoint my head, but she has anointed my feet with rare perfume. "I tell you, her sins—and they are many—have been forgiven, so she has shown me much love. But a person who is forgiven little shows only little love." Then Jesus said to the woman, "Your sins are forgiven." The men at the table said among themselves, "Who is this man, that he goes around forgiving sins?" And Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

-Luke 7:36-50 (NLT)

SIDE DISH

Watch this week's video on [YouTube.com/weomaha](https://www.youtube.com/weomaha)

Playlists >
Dinner with Jesus >
Week 6



Make it a Combo



If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

-1 John 1:8-9 (NLT)

How often do you confess your sins to God? How does it make you feel afterwards?

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Share your response with your House Church, family, or a friend as you are comfortable.

Desserts

1. People in the community had labeled this woman immoral because of her past mistakes. What are some labels we put on people today based on their past mistakes?

2. The other dinner guests thought this woman's mistakes were irredeemable. Have you ever been in a situation where forgiving someone seemed particularly challenging? If you were eventually able to find forgiveness, what steps or perspectives helped you forgive?

3. This woman took her most valuable possession and offered it to Jesus because she felt so guilty about her past. When you feel guilty about something, what is your typical response and strategy for dealing with guilt in order to overcome or alleviate feelings of guilt?

4. We need forgiveness from three places when we make a mistake. We need forgiveness from the person we hurt, God, and ourselves. Which one is the most challenging for you to accept forgiveness from? Why?

5. The woman received forgiveness from Jesus, but not from the other people at the dinner. How can we move forward from a mistake and deal with our guilt when others refuse to offer us forgiveness?

6. Jesus is not saying that Simon the Pharisee has never sinned and doesn't need forgiveness. He is saying that the woman is more aware of her need for forgiveness. How can we stay aware of our need for forgiveness so we don't become like the arrogant Pharisee?

7. Have you ever made a mistake that you believed was too severe for God to forgive? How can we accept God's forgiveness in these moments?

TAKEAWAY & DELIVERY

1. Take a moment to confess a sin that you've been struggling to accept forgiveness for. This week, pray daily for God to help you accept His forgiveness and move forward. Use the prayer template in Wednesday's Daily Special as a guide.

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2. Write down a person you are struggling to forgive right now. This week, pray daily for God to help you forgive this person. Use the prayer template in Monday's Daily Special as a guide.

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God creates out of nothing. Wonderful you say. Yes, to be sure, but he does what is still more wonderful: he makes saints out of sinners.

-Søren Kierkegaard



Reservations

What did I take away from this week's study?
Who do I need to pray for this week?

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Daily Specials

SUNDAY

Worship In-Person or Online

What is one takeaway from this week's sermon?

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MONDAY

Prayer

God, I am struggling to forgive

Help me to forgive them genuinely and enduringly. Let me move forward with hope.

Amen.

TUESDAY

Scripture

Read Luke 7:36-50. What is one personal takeaway from this story?

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WEDNESDAY

Confession/Forgiveness Practice

God, I confess I have hurt myself and others by I confess I have strayed from You by God, help me receive your forgiveness and truly believe I am forgiven. Amen.

(Also - Join us for Table Talk on The Water's Edge Facebook at noon!)

THURSDAY

Simplicity

Fast from anger today. When we struggle to forgive, we're left with anger.

Try replacing feelings of anger with prayers for the person who made you angry.

FRIDAY

Silence

We've been working our way up in time. Spend 15 minutes in silence without any distractions. Try to keep your mind clear and focus on hearing from God.

SATURDAY

Serve

Offering forgiveness to someone is a way of serving them. If you are ready, extend forgiveness to someone today. If not, commit to continue your journey of forgiveness.



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