



TALK ABOUT IT

1. What kind of family rules did you have at your house, especially at the dinner table? Was it ok to invite others to join your family for dinner? How often did you do so?

READ ABOUT IT: Luke 6:6-16, Galatians 3:26-28, Matthew 5:46-48, Luke 14:12-14, John 13:34-35

THINK ABOUT IT

2. **Read Luke 6:6-11.** What were the Pharisees and teachers of the law looking for when they came to “church”? What was Jesus looking for? How did Jesus try to turn their eyes in another direction?
3. **Read Luke 6:12-16.** How important was it that Jesus prayed all night before he chose his “small group”? What do you know about these guys?
4. **Read Matthew 5:46-48 and Luke 14:12-14.** Does Jesus really intend for us to love, bless, and greet everybody? What do you think about Jesus’ “dinner table” rules? Is there room at your table for inviting those usually excluded?

DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT

5. What action can you take this week to begin to form community in your neighborhood? Among those you worship with? Recreate with? At your workplace? In your town? Would you ask Jesus about where to begin and be willing to say yes when he shows you?

Luke 6:6-16 NIV11. ⁶On another Sabbath he went into the synagogue and was teaching, and a man was there whose right hand was shriveled. ⁷The Pharisees and the teachers of the law were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely to see if he would heal on the Sabbath. ⁸But Jesus knew what they were thinking and said to the man with the shriveled hand, “Get up and stand in front of everyone.” So he got up and stood there.

⁹Then Jesus said to them, “I ask you, which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do good or to do evil, to save life or to destroy it?”

¹⁰He looked around at them all, and then said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” He did so, and his hand was completely restored. ¹¹But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law were furious and began to discuss with one another what they might do to Jesus.

¹²One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray and spent the night praying to God. ¹³When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles: ¹⁴Simon (whom he named Peter), his brother Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, ¹⁵Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Simon who was called the Zealot, ¹⁶Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

Galatians 3:26-28 NIV11. ²⁶So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, ²⁷for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 5:46-48 ESV16. ⁴⁶For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? ⁴⁸You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Luke 14:12-14 NIV11. ¹²Then Jesus said to his host, “When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

John 13:34-35 NIV11. ³⁴“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”