



## THE LIVING SENT PODCAST: SHOW NOTES

EPISODE: **005**

TITLE: **Your Most Effective Ministry Tool- Eating with People Like Jesus**

The common table is something that 99.9% of people have in their home. Are you leveraging the table for ministry the way Jesus did? You can begin today.

*“Eating and drinking with others is a constant theme throughout the biblical history of how and what Jesus did during his earthly ministry. Churches are most often found meeting. Jesus was most often found eating. If you were to bump into him on the streets of Jerusalem, he would have been more likely to invite you to a barbecue than to a Bible study. If you were to edit out all the content of the Gospels that involved Jesus eating with others, we would have very little left of what Jesus said and did.”<sup>1</sup>*

### 1. **Be Radically Inclusive:**

- a. The religious professionals of Jesus’s day were exclusive in their eating practices. Jesus was radically inclusive, eating with people who were far from God and who desperately needed him.
  - i. Questions: What would it take for you to begin eating in a more inclusive manner? When was the last time you ate with someone of a different ethnicity? Religious preference/worldview?
  - ii. Questions: What opportunities might eating this way afford you? Do you think it would be easier or more difficult to engage in gospel conversations over a meal? Why or why not?

### 2. **Ask Really Good Questions:**

- a. Rather than thinking of your conversation questions as close-ended versus open-ended, think of them in terms of “story-telling” questions. These types of questions are begin for the other person to share a story and give you information as well as insights into who you are speaking with.
  - i. Questions: Justin gave a few of his favorite examples in the episode. Can you think of any other story-telling questions?

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<sup>1</sup> Brad Brisco and Lance Ford, *Next Door as It Is In Heaven: Living Out God’s Kingdom In. Your Neighborhood*, (Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 2016), pg. 110-111.



**3. Open Your Door:**

- a. Here is your challenge for this week: invite a few people into your home to eat, party, and laugh together. Watch what God does in your relationships and look for opportunities to talk about Jesus with others.
  - i. Questions: Is the practice of opening your door (i.e., “hospitality”) challenging for you or does it come naturally? Why do you think that is?

**We often try to overcomplicate mission, discipleship, and evangelism. Jesus didn't. His strategy was simple: The Son of Man came eating and drinking (Lk. 7:34).**

**I'd love to hear from you this week. Reach out to me at [justinwester.com/connect](https://justinwester.com/connect). Remember, you don't *have* to Live SENT, you get to. See you next episode.**

*Justin*