

Family Ties





Following the model of
Jesus and His followers
takes us to a common place.

The background of the slide is a vibrant blue sky with soft, white, stylized clouds at the top. At the bottom, there is a colorful illustration of a town. It features several houses with dark grey roofs and light-colored walls. A prominent red house with two windows is in the center. To the right, a larger blue house with three windows is visible. Green trees of various shapes are scattered throughout the town scene.


Acts 2:42-47 NIV

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵They sold property and



Acts 2:42-47 NIV

possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.



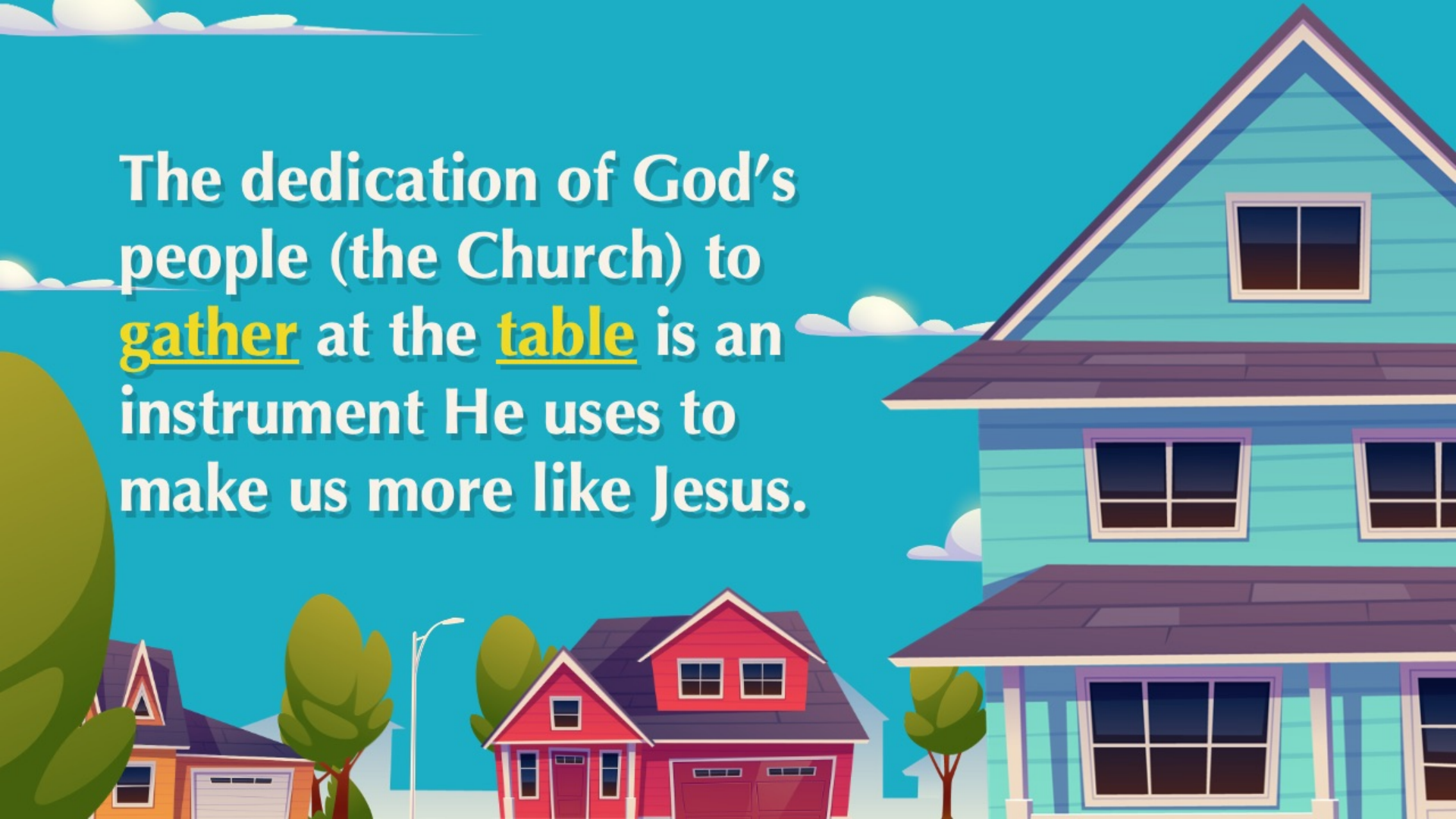
They did the ordinary and God came in and did the extraordinary. The question then for us today is are we willing to commit to the ordinary so we can see God do the extraordinary in our lives.





Why is the
table central?

The dedication of God's people (the Church) to gather at the table is an instrument He uses to make us more like Jesus.



Why is the table central?


It is a place to
gather for care
and connection.






Acts 20:7 NIV

⁷On the first day of the week we came together to break bread. Paul spoke to the people and, because he intended to leave the next day, kept on talking until midnight.






When it comes to care and connection one of the gifts that God gives to us is the ability to slow down long enough to have people speak into our lives.

Why is the table central?

It is a place to gather for care and connection.

It is a place to give.

A vibrant, cartoon-style illustration of a suburban neighborhood. The scene is set against a bright blue sky with soft, white, fluffy clouds. In the foreground, there are several houses. On the left, a light blue house with a dark grey roof and a white window frame is visible. In the center, there are several green trees of varying sizes. On the right, a red house with a dark grey roof and two white window frames is prominent. The overall atmosphere is bright and cheerful.

When we gather around the table it is not just a place for us to consume, it is a place for us to give and serve others.

2 Samuel 9:3, 6-7, 11b, 13 NIV

³The king asked, “Is there no one still alive from the house of Saul to whom I can show God’s kindness?”

Ziba answered the king, “There is still a son of Jonathan; he is lame in both feet.”

⁶When Mephibosheth son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, came to David, he bowed down to pay him honor.

David said, “Mephibosheth!”
“At your service,” he replied.

2 Samuel 9:3, 6-7, 11b, 13 NIV

7 “Don’t be afraid,” David said to him, “for I will surely show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan. I will restore to you all the land that belonged to your grandfather Saul, and you will always eat at my table.”

^{11b}So Mephibosheth ate at David’s table like one of the king’s sons.


¹³And Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, because he always ate at the king’s table; he was lame in both feet.



Matthew 26:26-28 NIV

²⁶While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body.”

²⁷Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. ²⁸This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.”



Why is the table central?

It is a place to gather for care and connection.

It is a place to give.

It is a place to grow.

Not only is the table a
place where we break
bread, the table is a place
where God breaks us.





Luke 7:36 NIV

³⁶When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table.






Luke 7:40-47 NIV

⁴⁰Jesus answered him, “Simon, I have something to tell you.”

“Tell me, teacher,” he said.



⁴¹“Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴² Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?”



The background features a bright blue sky with soft, white, stylized clouds at the top. At the bottom, there is a colorful illustration of a town with various houses, including a prominent red house with a white roof, and green trees. The overall style is clean and modern.

Luke 7:40-47 NIV

⁴³ Simon replied, “I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven.”



“You have judged correctly,” Jesus said.

⁴⁴Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. ⁴⁵You did not give me a



Luke 7:40-47 NIV

kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. ⁴⁷Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little.”





As we gather around the table and do life together transformation happens in our hearts. This transformation is not just individual but communal. Powerful and unique things happen when God's people gather.

1 Corinthians 11:23-25 NKJV

²³For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; ²⁴and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.”

²⁵In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Jesus body is broken for us and then He calls us after the resurrection to be the Body of Christ fully put back together.

