

LENT AT THE TABLE

February 25-March 2

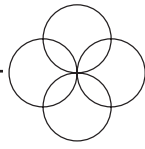
The Welcome Table

Read Matthew 9:9-13

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

- What is the most memorable dinner party you have ever been to? What made it memorable? Who was there? What was served? Were you the host or a guest? What feeling stirs for you now as you remember it?
- This story in Matthew 9 is sandwiched in between a series of other stories, but most of them are healing stories. So in between stories of people being freed of possession, injuries, illnesses, and even death, there is this call story. Is there a way that this story can be understood as a healing as well?
- In their book, *Meeting Jesus at the Table*, Cynthia Campbell and Christine Coy Fohr write this about an ancient reality about sharing a meal together... "was understood that sharing a meal created or cemented a relationship. Thus, it mattered with whom you "broke bread," which is what makes Jesus' practice of eating with whoever invited him all the more noteworthy."
- As you read the above quote, think about who you "break bread" with. How can you widen the circle with whom you break bread?
- If we think of breaking bread in a wider manner than just sitting down and eating with others, we break bread whenever we read something about someone's life who is different from our own or watch a documentary that helps to teach us something about others that we were unaware of. Can you begin to "break bread" in this way with someone(s) new this week?



RECIPE

This was shared by Karen Robinson and was handed down to her by her Aunt Mary. Feel free to make it for yourself, or can you make some extra to share with someone else?

Heavenly Hash

Ingredients

- 1 Lg. can fruit cocktail in heavy syrup
- 1 Med. can crushed pineapple in heavy syrup
- 1 Sm. jar maraschino cherries with juice
- Small bag of mini marshmallows
- 16 oz. Cool Whip®

Instructions

1. 9x13 pan, foil lined
2. Stir throughly until marshmallows are almost melted and very small.
3. Then add Cool Whip® and stir again.
4. Pour in to pan. Put extra's in cool whip bowl. Freeze and enjoy!!