

Conclusion: Let's Dream about Extraordinary Meals

A. *Jiro Dreams of Sushi*

B. Let's dream about extraordinary meals

LIVE THE STORY

*The Gospel is intended to be learned and lived in community.
The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups
as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.*

Love the Gospel

- Why is it important to be devoted both to fellowship meals *and* the Lord's Supper?
- What stories come to mind when thinking about Jesus' ministry over meals? What do these stories reveal about Jesus' character?

Live the Gospel

- What is the biggest hindrance for you which keeps you from regular extraordinary meals with other believers?
- How can you prepare for regular extraordinary meals with other believers to ensure God is praised, people are edified, and Jesus is revealed?

Advance the Gospel

- What unbelievers are in your life who could observe your extraordinary meals?
- How have you built relationships with them so that they are in a position to observe your extraordinary meals? What would you say to them if they asked why your meals look like they do?

The Church: A Faithful Gospel Witness (Part 4) Making Ordinary Meals Extraordinary Peter Stonecipher — November 22, 2020

Text: Acts 2:42-47

Introduction: Making Ordinary Meals Extraordinary

We have a cultural fascination, perhaps a cultural obsession, with taking something ordinary – our need to eat food on a daily basis – and making it extraordinary

I. (What?) Extraordinary Meals: Communion or Cookout?

A. Some historical considerations

B. Parallel passages

Acts 2:42-47 → Luke 24:30-31 → Luke 22:19 → Luke 9:16

C. Let's break bread at Communion *and* cookouts

II. (Who?) Extraordinary Meals are with Believers (and Unbelievers?)

A. Breaking Bread with Believers

Cf. Acts 2:41, Acts 2:9-11

B. Breaking Bread with Unbelievers?

Acts 2:47

C. Let's break bread with believers *and* unbelievers

III. (When?) Extraordinary Meals Happen All the Time

A. The extraordinary *all the time?*

B. Not a prescription, but a challenge

C. Let's clear our calendars for breaking bread

IV. (Where?) Extraordinary Meals Happen at Your Place

A. From Temple to houses (from formal to informal)

B. Some historical considerations

C. Let's break bread at *your* place

V. (How?) Extraordinary Meals Result in Praise and Favor

A. Results, not mechanics

B. *Biblical* results

"In the Bible story God gives food to humanity. Idols demand that we meet their needs. The true God graciously meets our needs."
Tim Chester, *A Meal with Jesus*

C. Let's break bread with praise and favor as our goal

VI. (Why?) Extraordinary Meals Reveal Jesus

A. Jesus → Apostles → Christians

B. Our Perfect Example, our Gracious Host

Extraordinary meals not only point to things Jesus did, and wants us to do likewise. Extraordinary meals point to things *Jesus does for us* by his grace alone to be received by faith alone

C. Let's break bread to reveal Jesus to ourselves and others

"What we offer people is Jesus. His death is sufficient and complete. He is the Provider. He is the host. Not us."

Tim Chester