

SERMON NOTES

July 15 & 16, 2023

Seat at the Table: Where's My Seat?

Mark 5

_____?

1. A crowd is _____

_____.

A community is _____

_____.

Mark 5:7

2. A crowd _____.

A community _____.

Mark 5:1-5

3. A crowd _____.

A community _____.

Mark 5:16-17

4. A crowd _____.

A community _____.

Mark 5:18-19

5. A crowd _____ from the table.

A community _____ to the table. **Mark 5:20**

Life Steps

Seat at the Table: Where's My Seat? | July 15 & 16, 2023

Monday

Mark 5:1-13

Reflect: Being isolated from a community can be a painful experience, yet we all go through it. Think back to when you last felt isolated. What are some words or phrases that describe that experience?

Prayer: God, you call us into community with you every day. Even when we are isolated from others, we are still connected with you. Teach us today to live in the reality of your constant presence.

Tuesday

Mark 5:14-20

Reflect: Sometimes our fear of being isolated can cause us to do hurtful things to others. When was the last time you found yourself participating in a mob mentality that led to someone else being isolated?

Prayer: God, you are the God who leaves the 99 to go after the one! Remind me today to be at the work of building bridges to that one who has been cast out.

Wednesday

John 8:1-11

Reflect: The crowd will often disguise itself as a community, or a family. But the truth is revealed in the outcome. Do the tables you sit at look like the tables where Jesus sat, or like the tables of the religious leaders?

Prayer: God, you call us not only to a table with you but also to a table that reaches out. Help me today to use my table to reach out to others, and not to condemn.

Thursday

Luke 15:1-7

Reflect: The religious leaders sneered at the tables where Jesus sat, and with whom. But Jesus was never influenced by common opinion. Who informs your view today: the experience of Jesus, or common opinion?

Prayer: God, give me the strength today to hold onto your kingdom worldview, and not the worldview of the brokenness that surrounds me. Use me today to be with the lost and invite them to my table.

Friday

Matthew 9:9-13

Reflect: Jesus sat at tables with sinners and tax collectors, and this caused an issue with the religious leaders. But Jesus cared more about grace than he did prestige. How do you rank grace vs. prestige? How does this influence where you sit?

Prayer: God, use me today to be a conduit for your grace to one person. Help me make one person's day better today.

Saturday

Matthew 10:5-8

Reflect: The cost of following Jesus means we are always being sent out to engage with the ones nobody else wants to. Being at the table with Jesus means being with people we don't want to be around. Think about the outcast and the lepers. Who best represents them in your world today?

Prayer: God, teach me compassion for those whom I want to avoid. Help me break down the walls within me that keeps me from loving them the way you do.

Sunday

Psalms 146

Reflect: The community of God is eternal. The community of God is hopeful. The community of God, the table of God is always open. Carry gratitude with you today as you engage with others around the table of God.

Prayer: God, you are the source of all that is good and holy. Thank you for inviting me to your table.