



fellowship church

Sermon Discussion Guide

June 7, 2026 - Pastor Scott Allen

A Seat at the Table (Galatians 2:11-14)

This sermon explored Paul's story of rebuking Peter for his hypocrisy. God had previously revealed to Peter that all food was now clean to eat (Acts 10), yet Peter stopped eating with the Gentile believers when those from the circumcision party arrived. The story served to establish Paul's authority but also to give a warning. While Peter believed right doctrine, his actions were not in line with the true gospel; rather, they communicated that the basis for fellowship was Jesus *and* additional works. Pastor Scott explained that when we live out of step with the gospel, we fall into people-pleasing, mask-wearing and wall-building to secure a seat at the table. However, what qualifies us to sit and eat at God's table is grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone.

Discussion Starter

- What is something from the sermon that stuck with you this week?
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Reflection Questions

- There were two equations mentioned in the sermon. Why is it so dangerous to believe that *Jesus + something = salvation*? Why can it sometimes be hard to believe that *Jesus + nothing = salvation*?
- How do you try to keep yourself qualified to sit at the table? Here are some diagnostic questions:
 - *People-pleasing*: Do you seek the affirmation of others for acceptance? Whose opinion matters most to you when you walk into a room? Who are you most afraid of offending or disappointing? Where do you feel the most pressure to pretend you have it perfectly together?
 - *Mask-wearing*: What do you compromise to hide your weaknesses and vulnerabilities? If people saw the real you, what are you afraid they would think?

- *Wall-building*: Do you compare yourself to others to measure your worth? What unspoken standards do you use to keep others out?
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Application Questions

- (Personal implications) Paul rebuked Peter publicly because his actions communicated that Jesus wasn't enough for salvation. What do I try to "finish" that was actually finished by Jesus on the cross?
- (Communal implications) Pastor Scott explained that there are natural implications for growing in Christ: our lifestyle, thoughts, attitudes, priorities and actions change. However, it is wrong to turn the fruit of our salvation into a requirement for salvation. What gospel implications (usually good things) do you find yourself turning into requirements for others to enter gospel fellowship?
- (Missional implications) Who am I tempted to think does not belong at the table? How does that affect my evangelism?
- (Vision Question: *We are a family of disciples on mission.*) In view of the questions above, how can we practically give one another grace and remind one another of God's gospel of grace?

This week's guide written by: Anna Koke

Tips for Group Leaders

- DO ask open-ended questions. DON'T ask questions where a short "right" answer ends the discussion.
- DO encourage mutual participation by every group member. DON'T feel the need to respond or weigh in after every contribution. Avoid monologuing. As the leader, your goal is to facilitate mutual discussion between all group members (Eph 4:15–16).
- DO ask follow-up questions: "What do you mean by that?" "Tell me more!" "Has anyone else experienced something similar (or different)?"
- DO feel free to pick and choose questions that are a good fit for your group. DON'T feel the need to get through every question, and don't worry if you spend most of your time on a few questions that generate a lot of good discussion.
- DO keep the main thing the main thing. Steer your conversation toward the main theme of the sermon and the biblical text. DON'T get sidetracked on less important matters, theological debates, etc. A rabbit trail might sometimes be worth pursuing—if group members are wrestling deeply with the implications of biblical truth for their lives. Otherwise, steer conversation back to the main topic.
- DO get into the text. It could be helpful to read over the passage together or ask questions directly related to the text. Help group members engage the text for themselves and respond to what they see there.
- DO revisit important moments from the sermon—a memorable story, an impactful quote, a convicting point of application. "Remember when pastor X talked about Y? What impression did that make on you?"
- DO allow space for reflection, silence, and thoughtful answers. DON'T feel that you need to jump in or ask a new question just because the group has been quiet for a few seconds. A good rule of thumb is to wait until the silence gets awkward, then count silently to ten before jumping in.
- DO bring discussions home to practical, concrete everyday life. DON'T let discussion and application stay in the abstract realm. Steer discussion toward *what does responding to this sermon look like for me?* If comments are vague or general, ask "what would that look like, practically?"