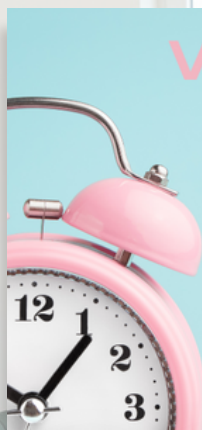


THE TABLE



Bible
Study



Intro

Welcome to our Bible study on God's welcoming presence. Throughout Scripture, we encounter numerous instances where God extends His gracious invitation to humanity, beckoning us to draw near and experience His love and fellowship. In this study, we will explore selected passages that highlight God's welcoming nature and discuss how we can respond to His invitation with gratitude and openness.

Why not begin with a prayer, asking God to fill you with His love and open your eyes to see His warm, inviting, and loving nature; to see Him as He truly is.

love

Read Romans 5:8-10:

"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!"

Discussion Questions:

1. What does this passage reveal about God's love for us?
2. How does understanding God's love impact our perception of His invitation into His presence?
3. Share an experience or realisation of God's love in your own life.

approach

Read Hebrews 4:16:

"Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

Discussion Questions:

1. What does it mean to "approach God's throne of grace with confidence"?
2. How does this invitation encourage you in your prayer life and relationship with God?
3. Share a time when you felt the assurance of being welcomed into God's presence.

Communion

Read Revelation 3:20:

"Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me."

Discussion Questions:

1. What would a meal with God look like in your home?
2. How does this verse portray God's desire for intimate fellowship with us and to meet us where we are?
3. What can we do to ensure the door stays open to God and that our place is His dwelling place?

abide

Read John 15:4-5:

"Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."

Discussion Questions:

1. What does it mean to abide in Christ?
2. How does abiding in Christ enable us to bear fruit and experience God's presence?
3. How might you explain the invitation to abide in Jesus to someone who is lonely and doesn't know Him yet?

Application

1. Approach God with Confidence: Take advantage of the invitation to approach God's throne of grace with confidence. Develop a consistent prayer life, knowing that you are welcomed and heard by God. Be transparent with Him, sharing your joys, struggles, and concerns.
2. Embrace the Hope of Eternal Life: Embrace the assurance of eternal life that God offers through Jesus. Allow the hope of eternity to shape your perspective on present circumstances. Live with a sense of purpose and a longing for the day when you will be forever welcomed into God's presence.
3. As you have been welcomed into God's presence, He's asking you to extend the invitation to those around you. Let's commit to share the best news with others and pray that as we've been loved, they would know His love too. plans for your life.

Prayer

Feel free to pray your own prayers as a group or pray the prayer below together:

Father God, we thank you for the incredible invitation to join Your family. Thank you for sending Your Son Jesus to die on the cross so that we can be adopted as Your children. As we have been shown such love, welcome and kindness, help us, through the power of Your Holy Spirit to show the same to those around us. May they know Your invitation to sit at the table, as we do. Amen.