FEBRUARY FISKEBÄCKS MISSIONSKYRKA Fiskebäck's Mission Church is taking steps to be a church without walls.

Every week, someone in the church plant writes a devotional based on what we're talking about on Sundays. The devotional is meant to use by individuals or by the DNA-groups so that they can take one step further in discipleship. It is an opportunity for people to immerse themselves in conversation so that it is not just something one hears, but it is also something that one can apply in one's own life. The Weekly Devotions are posted on the website each week so feel free to check it out if you want to be in on it too. <u>www.brunnen.cc</u>



Luke 5:27-32

"Later, as Jesus left the town, he saw a tax collector named Levi sitting at his tax collector's booth. "Follow me and be my disciple," Jesus said to him. ²⁸ So Levi got up, left everything, and followed him. ²⁹ Later, Levi held a banquet in his home with Jesus as the guest of honor. Many of Levi's fellow tax collectors and other guests also ate with them. ³⁰ But the Pharisees and their teachers of religious law complained bitterly to Jesus' disciples, "Why do you eat and drink with such scum?" ³¹ Jesus answered them, "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do.³² I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners and need to repent."

Look at Levi. Jesus looked into his heart and knew that Levi was in need of restoration, and therefore He called Levi to follow Him. The thing is that Levi dropped everything and followed Him. And not only that, but Levi also had a party and invited everyone he knew so that they could meet Jesus too. Levi had many parties in his day, but this one was different. His own life was changed by his encounter with Jesus and he wanted others to have the same opportunity. Levi invited those he already knew, he did not go out to find people that fit into an already finished model, instead he realized that <u>Jesus was there for</u> his friends too.

In recent weeks the Weekly Devotions have been about eating with other people based on four stories from the Gospel of Luke, examples of Jesus eating with other people. Why is it so important

who we eat with? If you think about how it, during Jesus' time one didn't eat with just anyone. To eat with someone showed that one respected the other person. In that time there was a clear hierarchy of how to sit and who you talked with during a meal, and to get invited showed that one had a relationship with the other person.

The stories we have read have shown us that Jesus ate with the rich and the poor, those who saw themselves as righteous and those who realized their sinfulness, those who were respected in the community and those who were outside the community, He ate with women and men alike. What was common for all these meals is that people were transformed as a result of their encounter with Jesus. When we meet people and eat with them; and when we invite Jesus to be a part of the meal too, we can have the same experience today as those in the Gospel of Luke. Even today when we eat with someone else it means that we invite them to be a part of our lives. It shows that we want to have some sort of relationship with them, and that they mean something to us.

Who do you eat with? Is it just those in your own household? Your friends? Favorite Colleagues? Or do you invite those that you might not have much in common with? Those that you find difficult to deal with? Those who come from a different background than you in terms of ethnicity /socio-economic status / age ...? Maybe you need to be challenged to invite someone other than the usual people you eat with this week. So go and invite them as a foretaste of the heavenly banquet where all God's people should eat with Jesus ...

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sinners and need to repent.''

Our Hope

Our hope is to start a new fellowship in Brunnsbo that reflects God's kingdom in its beauty and diversity where people can grow as Jesus followers. We long to do so in openness with other churches near Brunnsbo, so that we can proclaim and demonstrate God's whole Gospel to His creation.

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Fun ways God is moving!

- We have a good relationship with the owners of the café where we will hold the Language Café this March!
- The leadership team of Brunnen took a day to listen to God. Both individuals and the group have received words from God in regards to the leading of Brunnen. We are very thankful!!

Prayer Requests

Sara got an apartment in Brunnsbo!! She will move during the first week of March-praise God!!

 Pray for our relationship to the Commune. Politicians do not want the authorities to work in cooperation with churches, so we need God's power to break through the hearts of those who are in opposition.

What's next?

- We are hoping the Language Café will start in the beginning of March. Not being able to speak Swedish is a struggle for many immgrants in Sweden. We want to help them be a part of society. We want to support people and free them from language difficulties, by doing so we are living out the Gospel.
- We have grown so much that we need to form two cell-groups so that we can make space for more. Within 6 months we have grown from 10-12 people to 22-25—all honor and praise to God!