Session 6: Invite Yourself Over	
SESSION GOALS	
Every session has a point—what each participant should walk away from the discussion knowing, feeling, and doing.	
Main Idea: People are worth pursuing and loving. Just as Jesus sought us out, we should seek to share God's love with the people around us.	
Head Change: To know that God is still seeking those who don't know him.	
Heart Change: To feel compassion for those who do not know Jesus yet.	
Life Change: To intentionally get to know people who have not met Jesus so that we can share his love with them.	
Each session in <i>Table Talks</i> corresponds to a video segment featuring a recipe. Feel free to watch the video as a group, make the recipe together, and use the icebreaker question below to spark conversation while you eat.	
OPEN	
What is your favorite way to talk with people about Jesus?	
Talking about Jesus will be a new practice for some people. The comfort of gathering around	

food and drink is a great way to ease into conversations centered on faith. In today's video, Bianca introduces a familiar Bible character whose life was changed after dinner with Jesus.	
VIEW	
Before viewing the session, here are a few important things to look for in Bianca Juárez Olthoff's teaching. As you watch, pay attention to the following questions.	
What was so scandalous about Jesus's invitation to Zacchaeus?	
What happened to Zacchaeus after he had dinner with Jesus?	
Show Session Six: Who Sits at the Table? (6 minutes).	
REVIEW	
Bianca began by praising the power of conversation around a table. The chef she met was justified to think she might use their mealtime to talk about Jesus. Consider meals you've shared with friends. In what ways does the setting of sharing food and drink encourage conversation and intimacy?	
Read Luke 19:1–5. Zacchaeus, a tax collector, was disliked by just about everyone. He was looked down on by the Romans because he was Jewish and ostracized by Jews because he collected taxes for their oppressors. Zacchaeus also charged his neighbors at a higher tax rate, taking the excess to make a nice profit for himself. What do you think about Zacchaeus—is he someone you would want to be friends with? Why or why not?	

Jesus knew Zacchaeus and his reputation. Yet, he befriended him anyway. Jesus knows us too, both	
our reputation and all our secret sins. Despite it	
all, Jesus wants to be our friend. What does it	
mean to you that God knows you intimately?	
Do you think you deserve his friendship? Why	
or why not?	
Read verses 19:6–10. Zacchaeus was thrilled with	
Jesus's offer, but onlookers muttered about it	
disapprovingly. The teacher eating with a sinner?	
Scandalous! Why was the mindset of the	
townspeople in error? What were they missing	
when they judged Zacchaeus for being a	
"sinner"?	
When have you been tempted to judge	
someone else without acknowledging your	
own imperfections?	
Bianca reminded us that Jesus sees value in every	
person. In Luke 5:32 Jesus says, "I have not come	
to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."	
If you have never done so, what could it look like for you to accept Jesus's invitation to	
repentance? And if you have been a longtime	
disciple of Jesus, what does his invitation	
mean to you even now?	
Scripture does not give us the details, but it does	
tell us the meal with Jesus changed Zacchaeus. He	
was a brand-new person. After one dinner with	
the savior, the thieving tax collector became a repentant, generous saint. What did Zacchaeus	
announce after his time with Jesus in verse 8?	
Why was his declaration shocking?	
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Jesus declared Zacchaeus was a "true son of	
Abraham," which, Bianca explained, meant that	

Zacchaeus was a true person of faith. Galatians	
3:7 says, " those who have faith, these are	
Abraham's sons." Zacchaeus's actions didn't save	
him; rather, his faith, made evident through his restitution, did. Bianca said, "Repentance is not	
just ceasing to sin but to turn away from it and	
hate it." In what ways has Jesus changed you—	
your actions, thoughts, relationships?	
Rianca's last point was that losus saves those who	
Bianca's last point was that Jesus saves those who seek him. He didn't write off Zacchaeus, and he	
won't write you off. What does it mean to you	
that Jesus doesn't give up on you?	
Bianca closed by encouraging us not to give up on the lost. Jesus invited himself into Zacchaeus's	
home, his life, and his future. That meal radically	
changed lives in Jericho. As Jesus's disciples, we	
have the privilege of introducing others to the	
forgiveness and redemption Jesus offers them.	
He's worth it, and they are worth it. Whom have you given up on? What could it look like to	
restart a relationship with that person?	
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BIBLE EXPLORATION	
Zacchaeus's story is one of faith and	
transformation. He encountered Christ and came	
away a different person. His new faith compelled	
him to do what he could to make right all that he	
had made wrong while he lived as a sinner. Inspired by Jesus's forgiveness, he not only	
returned what he had taken but added four times	
the amount to each of his victims. With	
extravagant repentance, he demonstrated the	
vitality of his new faith.	
In Ephesians 2, we discover from the apostle Paul	
that Zacchaeus's transformation demonstrates	
exactly how our salvation works: we start in	
disobedience and sin, encounter Christ's mercy	

and grace, and become new people exploding with potential for good works. Let's investigate Paul's teaching more closely.	
Read Ephesians 2:1–3.	
Paul is writing to the church in Ephesus, to people who followed Jesus, to encourage their faith as they lived it out in a culture that espoused ungodly values. He begins this section by reminding the believers of who they used to be. Do you identify with his description? How has "walking according to the ways of this world" apply to your thoughts? To your behavior? To your words?	
People who don't know Jesus sometimes reveal their dead hearts through their actions. Zacchaeus, for example, extorted and stole from his clients. He let greed rule his life. What is your attitude toward lost people who need Jesus? How willing are you to draw close to them?	
Read Ephesian 2:4–9.	
In verses 4–5 Paul follows up his earlier words with the best news of all, "But God, who is rich in mercy, because of his great love that he had for us, made us alive with Christ" Notice the action of the sentence. Who is doing the acting? What does it mean for us that God is the one who made us alive in Christ?	
If God can save you, he can save the people around you—even the socially awkward, the defiantly disobedient, and the subtly snide ones. Jesus loves them all. Think of at least one person in your circle who has not accepted Jesus. What is one step you can take to show God's love to them?	

Memorize: Memorize Luke 19:10, "For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save the lost," and Ephesians 2:8, "For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift "	
Host: Simple sandwiches and finger foods like those Bianca shared in this session's recipe video, can make casual get-togethers easy to plan. Invite a few friends over, including those still exploring the idea of faith.	
Walk: Be intentional about getting to know your neighbors, whether that's walking your local sidewalks and talking to them in their yards or using technology to encourage gatherings. Start making friends right where you live and pray for opportunities to share the love of Jesus with them.	
Pray: Commit to praying for two or three people who don't know Jesus. Set regular reminders in your calendar so you don't forget to keep interceding for their salvation.	

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