

**The Gospel of Jesus Christ:  
Meals as Enacted Hope  
Luke 9**

Is there any hope?

In a world of overwhelming needs, the gospel of Jesus Christ multiplies the impact of our few resources when generously entrusted to him, meeting not just the superficial urges of our physical wants but our deepest spiritual needs.

- I. When Jesus comes to town, God tests the world's hospitality (Luke 9:1-9).
  - a. When God comes to town: grace or judgment? (cf. Gen. 18, Jdg. 19).
  - b. Consequences of an inhospitable world: oppression and persecution vs. judgement (Luk. 9:5, 6:22-23).

Pr. - God uses hospitality to tip the scales from justice to mercy.
  
- II. When the town comes to Jesus, they taste his hospitality and generosity (Luke 9:10-27).
  - a. The twin effect of hospitality and generosity: breaking the ice of superficial needs (9:10-17).
  - b. God's agenda: inviting us to join him in his redemptive plan (9:18-27).

Pr. - Jesus confronts us with large needs not to see if we have what it takes but to check if we trust he has what it takes.

**Hospitality opens our hearts to God's presence.  
Generosity opens our hands to God's providence.  
Share the little you have and watch him turn it into much.**

1. In Revelation 3:14-20 Jesus says he is knocking at the door seeking hospitality among self-centered and self-satisfied people. Will people at DFBC open their lives to table fellowship with Christ and others, or will they say "I need nothing" and relinquish a hopeful future?
2. What has the Lord entrusted to you that could make an eternal impact in his hands? Whether it is your time, talents, or treasures, God invites us to trust him in turning faith in the little into more.