

Practical Suggestions:

- 1) Cross-train in your apprenticeship journey by committing to praying with your Discover Partner for people you could and intend to share a meal with. Have them hold you accountable to this practice.
- 2) Make a plan to invite your neighbours over to your home once a month. Depending on the nature of your existing relationship with them, maybe invite more than one neighbour at a time.
- 3) Maximize breakfast and lunch breaks. While it's often not possible or appropriate to share your life while working or in class, sharing a meal together can build on already established relationships.
- 4) Don't put pressure on the conversation to always make it about something 'spiritual.' This is to be about honest relationship and the sharing of your lives – if you are faithful to invest in a meaningful way, there will be opportunities to give witness to the hope that you have.
- 5) At the same time, pray for opportunities to talk about things that matter. Think ahead of time of potential open-ended questions and then pray for courage to ask them. Things like, 'So tell me your life story? Why this job? What are you passionate about? What do you see yourself doing in 10 years? Ask about their family both at present and possibly what life was like growing up. Get beyond talking about sports and the weather.
- 6) Remember, the main thing that drew most people to Jesus was not his message primarily. It was him. People were drawn to Jesus *the person* – his welcoming, gracious and truthful character. And Jesus, who lives in you, will be what is compelling to people – especially as we become more like him (which is what apprentices do).

Discovering God

Core Practice #3: Share a Meal

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Core Practice #1:

Engaging with a _____

Core Practice #2:

Connecting in a _____

Core Practice #3:

_____ with those spiritually disoriented and socially outcast

In the New Testament, the sentence, '**The Son of Man came...**' is finished in one of only three ways:

The Son of Man came...not to be _____ but to _____ and give his life as a ransom for many.
(Mark 10:45)

The Son of Man came...to _____ and to _____ the lost
(Luke 19:10)

The Son of Man came..._____
(Luke 7:34)

*"If I pull down books on mission and church planting from my shelves, I can read about contextualization, evangelism matrices, postmodern apologetics, and cultural hermeneutics. I can look at diagrams that tell me how people can be converted or discover the steps required to plant a church. It all sounds impressive, cutting edge, and sophisticated. But this is how Luke describes Jesus' mission strategy: "**The Son of Man came eating and drinking.**"*

~ Tim Chester taken from *A Meal with Jesus*

3 examples from the life of Jesus

Luke 5:27-32 NLT

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."

Luke 14:12-14 NLT

Then he turned to his host. "When you put on a luncheon or a banquet," he said, "don't invite your friends, brothers, relatives, and rich neighbors. For they will invite you back, and that will be your only reward. ¹³ Instead, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ Then at the resurrection of the righteous, God will reward you for inviting those who could not repay you."

Luke 19:1-10 NLT

Jesus entered Jericho and made his way through the town. ² There was a man there named Zacchaeus. He was the chief tax collector in the region, and he had become very rich. ³ He tried to get a look at Jesus, but he was too short to see over the crowd. ⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree beside the road, for Jesus was going to pass that way.

⁵ When Jesus came by, he looked up at Zacchaeus and called him by name. "Zacchaeus!" he said. "Quick, come down! I must be a guest in your home today."

⁶ Zacchaeus quickly climbed down and took Jesus to his house in great excitement and joy. ⁷ But the people were displeased. "He has gone to be the guest of a notorious sinner," they grumbled.

⁸ Meanwhile, Zacchaeus stood before the Lord and said, "I will give half my wealth to the poor, Lord, and if I have cheated people on their taxes, I will give them back four times as much!"

⁹ Jesus responded, "Salvation has come to this home today, for this man has shown himself to be a true son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost."
