

# TABLE TALK



WEEK NINETEEN

MON: ALL ABOUT GOD

TUES: JESUS TAUGHT US

WED: PEOPLE

THURS: THANKSGIVING

FRI: THE WORLD



# MONDAY : ALL ABOUT GOD

Have you ever done something naughty and tried to hide it? Or, has anyone ever upset you but got away with it? There will be times when people (including ourselves) will do bad things and try to hide them so they won't get in trouble. Sometimes they'll get caught, but sometimes they won't. When things like this happen, it can make us sad or angry because it feels really unfair.

In 1 Samuel 2 a lady called Hannah sings a song to God praising him for who he is. In verse 3 she says this:

“The Lord is a  
God who knows everything. He judges what people do.”

God knows everything.

Every naughty thing which has ever happened God knows about! And, one day, he will judge everyone fairly based on what he knows they have done. This is good news for us! Any bad thing that's gone unpunished, will one day be punished fairly by God.

It also means that we can't hide the bad things we do from God – he knows all about them too! We need to take these things to God in prayer – tell him what we have done and ask for his forgiveness. We know that when we do this, if we believe in him, God will forgive us through the sacrifice of his son Jesus.

# TUESDAY : JESUS TAUGHT US

Do you remember what we learnt about last week?

Jesus is talking to some Pharisees – the religious leaders of Jesus' time. These were people who were very, very, clever and thought they knew everything about God. In last week's verses, one Pharisee asked Jesus what the most important commandment God had given to his servant Moses. How did Jesus reply?

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind.' This is the first and most important command."

After saying that this was the most important commandment, Jesus goes on to say:

"And the second command is like the first: 'Love your neighbour as you love yourself.'"

When we love God with all of our heart, soul and mind, Jesus tells us we should also love our neighbour. Jesus doesn't mean the person who lives next door to us, but every other human on the planet! We need to love them as ourselves – in other words – we need to love them like we want to be loved.

We shouldn't treat other people badly, but we should love them and show them that love in everything we do! It would be impossible to love God with all of our hearts, souls and minds, and then not love the people around us who he created and loves so much!

# WEDNESDAY : PEOPLE



On Wednesday's we spend some time learning about Christians who lived before us. Today we are learning about a lady called Jeannette Li who spent most of her life telling other people about Jesus. Jeanette Li was born in 1899 in China. Both of her parents were Buddhists, so Jeanette didn't grow up going to church or learning about Jesus.

But, when Jeanette was a bit older, she got sick and needed to go to hospital. The nearest hospital to where Jeanette lived was run by a group of Christian missionaries. These Christians helped people to get better whilst teaching them all about God and his son Jesus. When Jeanette was feeling better, she asked if she could go to the school run by the missionaries so she could keep learning about Jesus. By the time she was 10 Jeanette loved Jesus so much that she gave her life to him.

Jeanette was the only Christian in her family. This made it harder for her to follow Jesus every day, but it didn't stop her. When she was 16 Jeanette got married to a man who wasn't a Christian. After being married for 7 years, Jeanette's husband left her, and she became a single mum caring for her son. For many years she wasn't happy, but she kept trusting in Jesus and his plan for her life.

Even though she wasn't happy, Jeanette kept studying God's word and loved telling other people about him. Jeanette worked at a Christian School but wanted to reach more people with the good news of Jesus' birth, death and resurrection. So, in 1930 Jeanette made a decision which changed her life forever.

Jeanette went to Bible College and trained to be a missionary. After this, Jeanette spent the rest of her life serving others and telling them about God. She worked in hospitals, schools and orphanages, always looking for ways to help others. Lots of times Jeanette got in trouble with the Government who didn't like Christians. She was even imprisoned in 1952!

Jeanette heard about Jesus when she was just a little girl and knew then that she should give her life to him and spend her life doing what he called her to do. It wasn't always easy for Jeanette – in fact, most of the time it was very difficult! But Jeanette never stopped loving the God she heard about when she was a child. She kept trusting him and serving him until she died in 1968.

# THURSDAY : THANKSGIVING

What are your favourite things in the whole wide world? What makes you happy? Where do these things come from?

“Every good action and every perfect gift is from God. These good gifts come down from the Creator of the sun, moon, and stars.” – James 1:17

Every good thing is from God. Every good thing is like a tiny reflection of how good God is. He loves us so much that he gives us lots of different things for us to enjoy and to make us happy. Let's spend some time thanking God for all of those things and praise him for being a God who loves and cares for us!



# FRIDAY : THE WORLD

“*First, I tell you to pray for all people. Ask God for the things people need, and be thankful to him. - 1 Timothy 2:1*”

On Friday's we learn and pray for our brothers and sisters in different countries. In the very first Table Talk we prayed for Christians in the country of Colombia. This week we're going to read about our brother Enrique who lives in Colombia! Here is Enrique talking about what God has been doing since COVID-19:

“The pandemic has shown us that, when a man believes he is wise and in control of everything, he has no control over anything. And yet, in the midst of the pandemic, we saw that God continues to work. I have felt quite restless and desperate this year – but I remember the Lord's commands: be quiet, see salvation and what He will do for us. There is our hope...

One of the things we should learn as a church is that we must be more responsive to the problems happening around us. I think the church, somehow, has focused too much on its own members. We were not committed to the big commission. We looked only at our people...

I believe that the church, the Colombian church in particular, is a church that, for many years, received from outside, without being very committed to its own mission and to the global mission. I believe that God is inviting the church to be more present and to preach the gospel to the world.”

## PRAY

Let's pray for Enrique and all of God's people in Colombia. Pray that God will continue to work in Colombia despite COVID-19 and all of the new rules and difficulties they face. Pray that God will give wisdom to Enrique and other Christians in Colombia. Ask God to keep them safe and guide his people so that they can help others as much as possible.

