

# Around *the* Table

PART FOUR





<sup>16</sup> Jesus replied with this story: “A man prepared a great feast and sent out many invitations. <sup>17</sup> When the banquet was ready, he sent his servant to tell the guests, ‘Come, the banquet is ready.’ <sup>18</sup> But they all began making excuses. One said, ‘I have just bought a field and must inspect

**LUKE 14:16-22 NLT**



it. Please excuse me.' <sup>19</sup> Another said, 'I have just bought five pairs of oxen, and I want to try them out. Please excuse me.' <sup>20</sup> Another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.'

**LUKE 14:16-22 NLT**



<sup>21</sup> “The servant returned and told his master what they had said. His master was furious and said, ‘Go quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and invite the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.’ <sup>22</sup> After the servant had done this, he reported, ‘There is still room for more.’”

**LUKE 14:16-22 NLT**



If there is a seat for you at the table, there is a seat for others at the table.

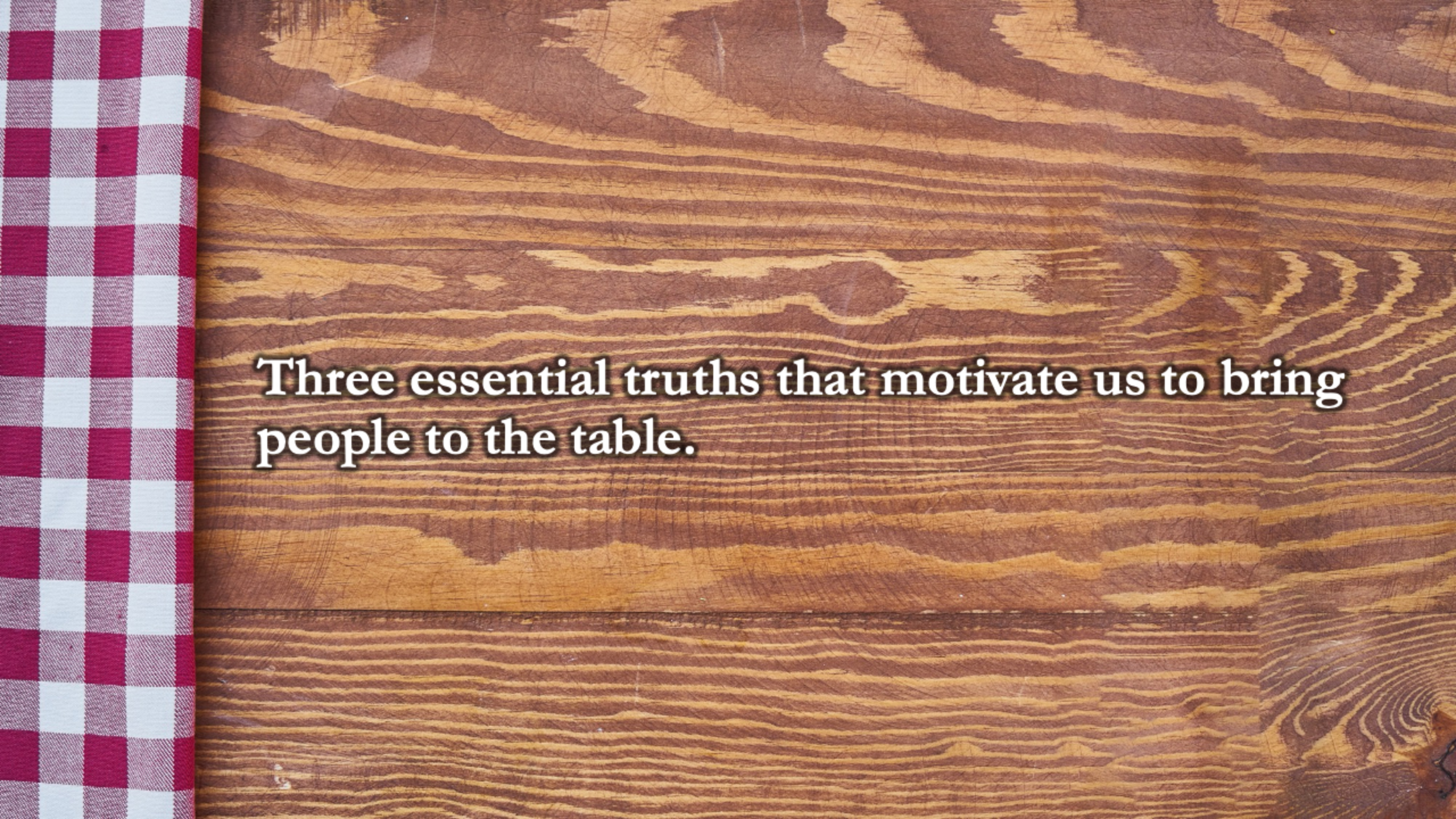




<sup>23</sup> “Then the master told his servant, ‘Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full.’”

**LUKE 14:23 NIV**



The image shows a close-up of a wooden table surface with a prominent grain pattern. On the left side, a portion of a red and white checkered tablecloth is visible. The text is centered on the wooden surface.

**Three essential truths that motivate us to bring people to the table.**





Three essential truths that motivate us to bring people to the table.

❖ He expands His house.



Three essential truths that motivate us to bring people to the table.

❖ He expands His house.

<sup>9</sup> The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

**2 PETER 3:9 NIV**



Three essential truths that motivate us to bring people to the table.

❖ He expands His house.

<sup>4</sup> “Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> And when he finds it, he joyfully puts

**LUKE 15:4-7 NIV**



## Three essential truths that motivate us to bring people to the table.

- ❖ He expands His house.

it on his shoulders <sup>6</sup> and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' <sup>7</sup> I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.



Three essential truths that motivate us to bring people to the table.

❖ He expands His house.

<sup>18</sup> And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

**MATTHEW 16:18 NIV**





Three essential truths that motivate us to bring people to the table.

- ❖ We are to enlarge His table.



## Three essential truths that motivate us to bring people to the table.

- ❖ We are to enlarge His table.

<sup>42</sup> All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer.

**ACTS 2:42-47 NLT**



## Three essential truths that motivate us to bring people to the table.

- ❖ We are to enlarge His table.

<sup>43</sup> A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. <sup>44</sup> And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. <sup>45</sup> They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need.

**ACTS 2:42-47 NLT**



## Three essential truths that motivate us to bring people to the table.

- ❖ We are to enlarge His table.

<sup>46</sup> They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity— <sup>47</sup> all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

**ACTS 2:42-47 NLT**



We need to be willing to do whatever we need to do to enlarge the table so people can come and meet Jesus.







Three essential truths that motivate us to bring people to the table.

- ❖ We are to extend the invitation.



## Three essential truths that motivate us to bring people to the table.

- ❖ We are to extend the invitation.

<sup>45</sup> Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” <sup>46</sup> Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.”

**JOHN 1:45-46 ESV**



The image features a wooden background with a prominent grain pattern. On the left side, there is a vertical strip of red and white checkered fabric. The text is centered in the upper portion of the wooden area.

**When people may be more open to  
the invitation:**



The background of the image is a wooden surface with a prominent grain pattern, showing various shades of brown and tan. On the left side, there is a vertical strip of red and white checkered fabric. The text is overlaid on the wood.

**When people may be more open to  
the invitation:**

- ❖ When things are not going well.



## When people may be more open to the invitation:

- ❖ When things are not going well.
- ❖ When people are experiencing something new.



## When people may be more open to the invitation:

- ❖ When things are not going well.
- ❖ When people are experiencing something new.
- ❖ When something unexpected occurs in people's lives.



## When people may be more open to the invitation:

- ❖ When things are not going well.
- ❖ When people are experiencing something new.
- ❖ When something unexpected occurs in people's lives.
- ❖ When holidays come around each year.



You are at the table today because someone at some point was willing to invite people to the table so they could have an encounter with Jesus.

