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Welcome to LifeWay! What a joy to have you with us today as we continue our Lenten series: **At the Table**. If this is your first time with us or you are just visiting, we are delighted that you are here. Please fill in a visitor card and put it on the offering plate during the service or hand it to the ushers at the door – we would love to acknowledge your time with us today. If you would like to know more about or explore what it means to journey the way of Jesus, please speak with one of our Pastors or the people who greeted you at the door.

Food has often been used as means of persuasion, coercion or behaviour control. We see it in families - a mother trying to coax her child into believing that if they eat their 'vegies' they will grow up big and strong and smart. Or the 'carrot-and-stick' approach that if they don't eat their vegetables, they will miss out on dessert. We see it in the school yard where only the 'populars' are allowed to sit in a certain place and anyone who dares to defy that unwritten rule is dealt with quickly. As for politics and the workplace, food has been a staple when it comes to doing business for centuries. Meals are often a place where power is exercised and games are played. Jesus is confronted by these power games at a meal today. Yet he refuses to play by the established rules, breaking the power games with love and expanding the table to all who are willing to sit down at a place of humility. We'll explore and experience that today.

WEEK 4 OF LENT SERIES:

## *At the* **TABLE**



*At the*  
**TABLE**

*A place of*  
**HUMILITY**

TODAY'S READING  
Luke 14:1-24

If you are visiting with us,  
we extend a special welcome  
to you and invite you to stay  
for morning tea with us  
after the service.

**LIVING** **SHARING** **GROWING**  
Jesus' love His hope with all in grace together

# JOIN US THIS EASTER FOR...

# no other

**EXCLUSIVE CLAIMS FROM AN INCLUSIVE GOD**



**PALM SUNDAY**

**14 APRIL**

**9.30AM**



**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

**18 APRIL**

**7PM**



**GOOD FRIDAY**

**19 APRIL**

**9.30AM**



**EASTER SUNDAY**

**21 APRIL**

**6AM + 9.30AM**

## WHAT'S ON?

### THIS WEEK

**SUN  
31**

**Epping KidsWay 11am**

**Epping Ten:10 11am**

**MON  
1**

**Conversational English Classes**  
Epping 10am

**Exodus Grow Course - #4**  
in back room, Epping 7.30pm

**WED  
3**

**Purposeful Prayer**  
in church, Epping 7am

**Pastoral Care Team**  
Epping 7.30pm

**Band Practice**  
Epping 7.30pm

**THUR  
4**

**Mainly Music, Term 1**  
Newcastle 10am

**Mandarin Singing Group**  
Epping 10am

**Purposeful Prayer**  
in back room, Epping 7.30pm

**LifeGroup Experience**  
Newcastle, 7.30pm

**FRI  
5**

**Mainly Music, Term 1**  
Epping 10am

The Maundy Thursday service at Epping this year will include a meal (different from last year) and for this reason will begin earlier than normal, at 7pm. If you are planning to attend, we ask that you please RSVP for catering purposes via the flyer or LifeWay app.

The Dawn service will be held at Epping only. Between the two services there will be a pancake breakfast available - RSVP's required. Please pick up a flyer (which includes the order form) from the foyer.



**RSVP BY PALM SUNDAY 14 APRIL**



**A letterbox drop** will be carried out in the coming weeks at both Epping and Newcastle to advertise our service times with the local community.

*If you are able to assist with this, please speak to Pastor Mark or Pastor Mat.*

**Take a flyer & invite a friend or family member!**



## NEW SERVICE AT EPPING

The new 11.30am service at Epping will now begin straight after Easter on **Sunday 28th April**.

With so much happening at this present time, the decision was made to delay the launch.

## FINAL OPPORTUNITY to join the Mission Team in Cambodia.

There are still three places remaining if you would like to be part of a team to build a house, extend a hall, and visit the students we are sponsoring to go to school in Tang Krang Village. Please see Pastor Mark this week as tickets will be booked in the next two weeks. Cost is \$3200.00



## PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Hospitable God, you invite us to a banquet where the last may be first, and the humble and the mighty trade places. Help us to respond to your gracious invitation and feast at your table of abundance where your love and grace never end. Make us humble and ready to put the needs of others before our own that we may set many tables where all people may come and find a grace-filled sanctuary and gracious welcome in your name. Amen.

## WE PRAY...

- For all Christians, that we may never play power games at the table, but they may always be grace-filled places of love and acceptance.
- For the leaders of the church, that their lives may provide an example of holy living for all Christians
- For those who have an insatiable desire/thirst for power and places of honour, that they may know the love of Jesus which ends the games and replaces it with the joy of living relationships.
- For those who feel marginalized, the weak, the sick, the stranger or refugee, that they may know there is a place for them at the table of Jesus.
- For all congregations in the Sydney basin as we develop a Sydney future directions strategy, that all our congregations may freely share the invitation to others to join us at the mega feast of God's banquet.
- For the sick and those in need of healing that they may know fullness of life in Jesus especially Jenny Schneider, Emily Cooke, Gordon Mangelsdorf, Hedi Krause, Erna Kutas, Audrey and John Scarce.

THIS WEEK'S

# At the TABLE

## Challenge

The law of reciprocity has been around for a long time. Who is someone you could invite for a meal that has no means to repay the favour? Invite them over to join you – honour them in your home. Or perhaps it is someone who just needs encouragement – honour them with a meal that has been cooked with love and prayer.

### NEW BISHOP FOR LCA NSW DISTRICT

Last weekend, the NSW District elected a new Bishop and Assistant Bishop to the roles. We congratulate.

Pastor Robert Bartholomaeus from Woden who was elected Bishop unopposed, and Pastor Richard Schwedes from St. Paul's Sydney who was elected Assistant Bishop. Please keep these two men in your prayers as they lead our Church in the State.

### DAYLIGHT SAVING ENDS NEXT SUNDAY

Don't forget to put your clocks back one hour next Saturday night when going to bed.... or just turn up to church early. You can always spend some time in prayer!



### Who is God calling you to reach for the Kingdom?

Grab your card today. Keep it in your wallet, on your fridge, in your car and think about how God may be using you to bring a L.I.F.E. that never ends.

**L**isten prayerfully  
**I**nvest personally  
**F**orm relationships  
**E**xtend invitation



NEXT WEEK  
SUNDAY 7 APRIL

## IT'S PARTY TIME at KIDS CHURCH

and you're invited



Come and join us *at the table* –  
We'd love to welcome you  
For we have the *best news ever*  
We can't wait to share with you

We'll save you a *place of honour*  
So don't be afraid of missing out  
Just turn up, *ready to party*  
And find out what it's all about!

### SERVING...

#### EPPING

<b>Reading</b>	KIDS
<b>Prayers</b>	KIDS
<b>HC</b>	NA
<b>Ushers</b>	J Schultz, S Sloan
<b>Morning Tea</b>	C & D Bertelsmeier, B Donati
<b>Flowers</b>	Susan Cornish
<b>Data</b>	Shane Albances
<b>Music</b>	Band 1
<b>Sound</b>	Rod Witt

#### NEWCASTLE

<b>Reading</b>	KIDS
<b>HC</b>	NA
<b>Ushers</b>	Carolyn Keane
<b>Morning Tea</b>	Annie Koch & TBA
<b>Flowers</b>	Ruth MacConnachie
<b>Data</b>	TBA