

EATING WITH SINNERS

Luke 15:1-2

Friday, March 29, 2019

“This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

Eating with sinners? How dare we... Jesus did it why can't we?? Let me tell you all a little story of what my husband and I did on Maundy Thursday, last year. Some of you know my husband Stephen Prince. He will talk to anyone. He doesn't care how you look, who you are, or how you smell. He is just that kind of man. I am proud of the man God has made him. Well this wasn't a normal Maundy Thursday service it was a VBS reunion with about 35 children and adults present. After the children watched a Veggie Tales movie Steve taught them about the last supper how the pizza they were eating was sort of like the bread Jesus served the disciples.

After the children learned about Holy Communion and was served, they were set free in the yard to hunt Easter eggs. Steve came outside where I was talking with some of the members of the churches we serve. Steve had the juice and bread. Now just to let you all know our second church is just down the street from a well-known bar in Morgantown. Steve goes there for the Hot Dogs and gets to know the local people (talks to everyone like I said before). So He comes to me and said “Let's go to Gene's and serve Communion.” My first thought is IT'S A BAR and I'm going to get kicked out of this place. But Steve said it would be fine and I trust my husband.

So up the street we went. Steve and I went in and found the bar maid Lucy. Steve ask her if we could serve communion and explained to her what it was. Lucy was happy to accept communion and sent us on our way around the bar. Steve explained Communion, everyone in the bar accepted communion except 3 people.

We were doing what Jesus did eating with Sinners. We have to get outside the doors of the church and meet our neighbors. Go out meet people, eat with sinners. Do as Jesus did, He was a great example. Jesus didn't sit around. He went out to people that is what we need to do. Go where the people are.

Prayer: Heavenly Father help us to remember what you have taught us. Give us the courage and strength to go eat with sinners. Help up to meet our neighbors where they live in our communities. In Jesus name we pray. Amen

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