

What's your Flava?

Prayer and feasting with the Persecuted Church!



It's a good job that Jesus did all the walking he did as it seems that he spent quite a lot of his time eating.

His first public appearance so to speak was at a right old knees up especially after he got hold of the supplies (John 2:1-11). He treated the odd few thousand people to a nice picnic in the countryside and as an A-list celeb he got invited to all the 'Church' buffet luncheons (Matt 14:16-21, 15:32-38, Luke 7:36). Partial to the odd slice of toast He broke numerous loaves. Food and drink were so much a part of his life that he even described himself in those terms (Matt 26:26-29).

As the Church we have carried on this fine tradition having 'pot luck' dinners, 'bring and share' buffets, women's coffee evenings and men's prayer breakfasts – and that very strange tradition of weak tea.

Hungry yet?

The whole point of all this eating and drinking is remembrance and fellowship. In the Law the feasts were included by way of remembering the deliverance and providence of God. 'The Lord's supper' or 'Communion' is a symbolic reminder of Christ. Jesus ate with a lot of people to share in their lives. It is a great means of fellowship. Think of Eastenders or Coronation Street - a lot of the socialising goes on in a pub, think of Friends - much of it is set in 'Central Perk' the coffee shop.



So how about sharing a meal with a few friends and the Persecuted Church, remembering them to God and letting your stomach inspire your heart's prayers?

Outline

1. Get a bunch of friends interested in prayer and feasting or do this as a youth group session.
2. Pick: a) A country, b) A native meal, c) A cook, d) Ingredients, e) An evening to do it.
3. Chat amongst yourselves whilst the cook is cooking.
4. Eat the meal giving thanks for a) The cook or cooks, b) Pray for the Christians in that country - briefly
5. Pick a washer up-er or two!
6. After, spend some time praying for that country - check out the Open Doors website for prayer details
www.opendoorsuk.org or email emmaw@opendoorsuk.org
7. If feeling particularly inspired take an offering - what people would have paid for the meal in a restaurant perhaps and raise money for one for underground's fundraising projects. Email emmaw@opendoorsuk.org to see who can you can help.

underground

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