

## Eating Together

A friend of mine, Jay, attended a seminar by Hugh Halter, author of *The Tangible Kingdom*, an excellent book on living out the kingdom of God.

Halter and his wife wanted to reach out to people in Denver who weren't following Jesus. As a couple they had a goal of regularly sharing a meal with such people. As their spiritual community grew, they had regular parties and invited friends.

My friend Jay and his wife Barb have also been hosting similar parties, most recently a brunch, for people in their area. Jay says,

"There is something significant about eating a meal with people. Think about all the references to food and eating together in the Bible. When we invite people to eat with us, we honor them. This changes the relationship. ... The next time you see them, the greeting is different, the bond is stronger."

What would happen if we regularly invited our non-Jesus-following friends to eat with us? What if our Christian community hosted regular parties for such friends?



*Coffee/tea thought:* Is God calling me/my family/my Christian community to host gatherings for friends where we can simply relax and enjoy getting to know each other better, without "pressure"? Would Jesus "show up"?

John

## 一起吃饭

我的一个朋友，Jay，参加了《有形的国度》的作者Hugh Halter的一个讲座。这本书讲活出神的国讲得非常好。

Halter和他太太想要接触丹佛一些还没信主的人。他们夫妻打算定期与一些这样的人一起吃个饭。当他们的人数增加时，他们有了些固定来的人。

我的朋友Jay和Barb也在做类似的事，最近他们在请周围的人吃早午餐。Jay说，

“和人吃饭的里面有些学问。想想圣经里讲到食物和一起吃饭的事。我们请人吃饭的时候，我们是在尊重他们。这会增进关系。……下次见到他们的时候，问候也会不同，联系也会更紧密。”

如果我们请没有信主的朋友吃饭会怎样？我们的聚集是否也包括他们？

随想：神是否在呼召我／我的家庭／我的聚会邀请一些朋友，使我们有机会放松一下，也与他们有些“无压力”的交流？耶稣到时候也会来吗？

史建恩