

Table Manners: Paul
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Reflection & Discussion Questions

We are created differently by God

Because we don't understand these differences, we end up nagging each other about the downsides.

- *How does understanding ourselves and others lead us to be together in healthy ways?
- *Can you share about a time differences led to a competition of whose motives and values were better?

Paul and others like him are passionate about what is right, caring deeply about goodness and making the world the way it should be

He saw things in terms of right and wrong, had high, sometimes too high, standards for himself and others, and could come across as critical.

- *Do you see yourself or someone you know in Peter?
- *What positive and negative characteristics do you resonate with?

Peter and others like him could greatly benefit from the spiritual discipline of personal confession and leaning into this verse

Philippians 3:12 (NIV)

¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

Confession is agreeing with God that you have sinned, but that it is forgiven and you are deeply loved.

- *How could confession to God or to a trusted friend be helpful for someone with characteristics like Paul?
- *What does this verse say to you? How does it help with self-criticism?

People like Paul need us to tell them you don't have to be perfect to be worthy of love and acceptance from God.

- *What is great and helpful about having someone like Paul at the table?
- *What can be frustrating about sitting with him?

Peter – focused on freedom and adventure

Paul – focused on doing good and being good

- *What conflicts could arise among these two?
- *How could these types benefit one another?