

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)**

*<sup>12</sup> 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?