

WHEN GOD COMES FOR DINNER

Genesis 18

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The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Cell Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- If you could have dinner with anybody, past or present, who would it be?
 - Why? What would you serve for dinner? What questions would you ask?

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

Intro:

- **Read** Genesis 18:1-8 together. In the message on Sunday, Pastor Pat encouraged us with **five basic characteristics of someone who is a friend of God**.
- Look back at the notes you took on Sunday. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you heard (a new idea, an application, an illustration, a challenge, a question, or a new way of thinking)?

#1 - *When God comes for dinner, you should worship Him (Genesis 18:2)*

- *In ancient times, hosting someone for a meal was a special occasion. This sign of hospitality often indicated a deep friendship between both parties. In this chapter, God comes for dinner.*
- A. Have you ever thought of yourself as a “friend of God?” Do you think this is an appropriate title? Why or why not?
- B. Our Core Value of Worship states: *God alone rules my world, so I will point to Him in everything I do.*
 - A. How does your life show that you really believe that “God alone rules your world?”
 - B. When was the last time you pointed your heart, your mind, and your full attention to God?

#2 - *When God comes for dinner, you should serve Him (Genesis 18:4-8)*

- *Even at 99 years old, Abraham hurriedly prepares to serve the Lord.*
- A. Talk about a time when someone intentionally put your needs before their own.
- B. What are some examples of ways that you could serve the Lord at Saylorville right now? Will you?

#3 - *When God comes for dinner, you should listen to and believe Him (Genesis 18:10, 14)*

- *Although Abraham’s wife, Sarah, was listening to the Lord, she did not believe Him.*
- A. Think big now - what is one problem in your life that seems to have no possible solution?
- B. What might change in your heart and in your actions if you truly believed that nothing is too hard for the Lord? (vs. 14)

#4 - *When God comes for dinner, you should walk with Him (Genesis 18:16-21)*

- *When you listen to God and believe Him, the next step is to walk with Him.*
- A. Instead of waiting for God to show you His will by using the “writing in the sky,” what do you think you could you do this week to walk with God daily?

#5 - *When God comes for dinner, you should request of Him (Genesis 18:22-33)*

- *Abraham previously rescued his nephew, Lot, with a posse. In this passage, he rescues Lot in prayer.*
- A. For your group prayer time this week, go around the circle praying for each other. Have each person share, “I need the prayer of rescue in this specific situation in my life right now...”

PRAY WITH EACH OTHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Pray in faith that God will rescue those in your group from Satan, from the world, and from the flesh.

