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## An Open Door: A Communion Meditation

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Sometimes I am amazed at the simplicity and complexity that occur overlapping each other as God communicates with us. In 1 Corinthians 11.26, Paul tells us, “For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.” We might become blasé about this...a very simple ritual with very basic food items. But this activity that we do together enables us to keep before us what God, through his son, did out of love to bring each of us back in relationship with God.

In 1 Corinthians 11.24, Jesus is quoted, “Do this in remembrance of me.” Who is to partake and remember? In Revelation 3.20, Jesus tells us, “Behold I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door I will come in to him and eat with him and he with me.”

Anyone who hears my voice. And opens the door. I will come to him. And eat with him. *Anyone?*

Galatians 3.28 tells us “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

A meal is a time for connecting with people we want to know, care about, feel comfortable with, or—depending on place and history—it might establish acceptance or alignment. As we continue in our remembering, let’s remember Jesus modeled his new kingdom for us, removing boundaries of human communing early in his ministry.

In Mark 2.16, Jesus has just called Levi the tax collector to follow him. The scribes of the Pharisees ask, “Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?” This just wasn’t done by a proper Jew.

In John 4.7, as Jesus and his disciples travel from Judea to Galilee through Samaria, a woman from Samaria comes to draw water. Jesus says to her, “Give me a drink.” (Pause.) “How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?” We soon learn that after she tells the town about this Messiah, Jesus stays with them for two days. *Anyone.*

Jesus uses the fellowship of food and drink to show us that he means anyone. It may be simple bread and wine Jesus used but we remember Jesus’s sacrifice to make each of us right with God. In doing this for each of us he has also shown us how to be right with each other.

*Dear Father, we thank you for your son Jesus and his willingness to be the sacrifice on the cross for our sins. As we eat the bread of this meal, let us remember that we are proclaiming the good news of each human’s reconnection with you, free from sin.*

*Thank you for the blood that was shed. Help us to remember Jesus and share his story with anyone and everyone so that they can hear him knocking and join in this simple meal with us. Amen.*

A MEMBER OF THE MONTGOMERY BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST IN ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO, **LEE CROWDER** SHARED THIS MEDITATION IN THE FALL OF 2016 DURING THE TURBULENT BACKDROP OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. HER HEART YEARNES FOR PEOPLE TO SEE THAT JESUS REACHES ACROSS ALL HUMAN BOUNDARIES AND DIVISIONS (LEE0CROWDER@GMAIL.COM).

