

Welcoming others because God welcomes us

Luke 5:11-32

Slides from the all-age morning service on Sunday 28th
September 2025, led by Mike Hood

“I want to be
with Jesus and
listen to him!”

“This man welcomes
sinners and eats
with them!”

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LIVE

SUNDAY *with*

***HANNAH
BEYNON***

“This man welcomes
sinners and eats
with them!”

God is like the
Father in the story.
God is outrageously
welcoming.

Come
Home.

“This man welcomes
sinners and eats
with them!”

God is outrageously
welcoming,
and he wants us to join
in!

Anyone is always
welcome to turn
around, come home,
and start again.

God is outrageously
welcoming,
and he wants us to join
in!

Someone has recently started coming to Eden with some views that you find controversial/strange, which they keep telling you about, even though you've tried to talk about other things. Do you:

- a) Avoid talking to this person - you will probably just never be able to see eye to eye.
- b) Sit with this person and turn to them after the service to ask how they found the sermon.
- c) Educate yourself on those views in order to be able to persuade them how wrong they are.

There's someone new in your Discovery Club group who has just moved to Cambridge from another country, and you don't know how to speak the language they speak. Do you:

- a) Share what you're using for the craft with them and ask how to say things like glue and crayon in their language.
- b) Tell your Discovery club leader you think they might be a bit lonely, and then leave them alone.
- c) Pray that someone who speaks their language joins the group because that's the only way they will feel welcome.

You're volunteering at Eden Cafe for the first time and someone comes to the door wearing a full Santa costume, complete with bushy white beard.

(It's still September.)

Do you:

- a) Pretend there's nothing going on in the building and you're just setting up for the Sunday services.
- b) Ask them to change into regular clothes in the church toilets before coming to get a drink.
- c) Invite them in warmly and then have a good laugh about how their daughter wanted Santa at her birthday party.

Someone from your year has started coming to Gap, and you've heard all sorts of stories about them from people at school. You're not sure they're the type of person you want to be friends with.... Do you:

- a) Be polite to them, but try to escape ending up in the same group as them.
- b) Make an effort to be friendly to them and don't assume that because of what you've heard they won't become a Christian!
- c) Tell everyone at Gap the stories about them you've heard at school, so that they stop coming.

The Light Party is coming up and you want to invite your friends but there's someone at school who said lots of mean things about church last time that you talked about what you learnt at Discovery

- a) Invite everyone in class to the Light Party except them - they probably wouldn't enjoy it anyway.
- b) Invite them specially - everyone needs to hear about Jesus, so everyone is welcome at the Light Party!
- c) Don't mention the Light Party to anyone in your class in case this person finds out.

You really enjoy hosting people for Sunday lunch, but all three of your student 'Home from homes' cancelled on you this week. You've already made lasagne for eight! Do you:

- a) Find someone you don't recognise or just who you happen to be sitting with, and invite them instead.
- b) See if anyone from home group is free - you had a meal together this week but they'll be easy and won't mind when you ask them to leave at 2.30.
- c) Eat the whole lasagne yourself, obviously.