

Feasting & Food

Sermon Series: Taboo Topics & The Gospel

Stats:

- 2013 survey: Obesity and diabetes are the biggest health threats in South Texas.
- Current adult obesity: 31% (11% in 1990)
- Current student ages 10 – 17 obesity: 19%
- 76,000 people in the RGV have diabetes.

Are feasts EVER ok?

Matthew 22:1-4 And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready."

Biblical wedding feast practice:

- The future husband leaves to prepare a house.
- He returns, gets his bride, and they throw a wedding party.
- When the guests had arrived, the doors were shut and the feast began with great dancing and celebration, lasting seven days. The guests were given special garments of festivity.
- The bridegroom and bride were treated as king and queen, also wearing garments of celebration. They would watch the festivities, drink wine, and even join in the dancing.
- The ruler of the feast was responsible for all preparations and benedictions.
- This is the type of party that Jesus is going to prepare for us!

Biblical examples of feasts, celebrations, and worship:

- The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:23)
- Holy days celebrated through feasting: Feast of Booths, Feast of Passover, Feast of Weeks, etc.
- Feasting is not only encouraged but commanded!
- Abraham feasts. Moses says the people need to leave Egypt so they can have a feast and praise God.
- These feasts were extravagant. Overboard. We ought to throw the best parties!

Are all feasts are good?

Ecclesiastes 10:16-17 Woe to you, O land, when your king is a child, and your princes feast in the morning! Happy are you, O land, when your king is the son of the nobility, and your princes feast at the proper time, for strength, and not for drunkenness"

Feasting and food can become sin.

- Gluttony: one of the seven deadly sins.

Bad habits with food:

Proverbs 23:20-21 Be not among drunkards or among gluttonous eaters of meat, for the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty, and slumber will clothe them with rags.

- Consumption, lack of exercise = self-discipline issues.
- Laziness.
- Feasts: every day, every meal.
- Gluttony: habitual greed or excess in eating; insatiability, piggishness.

- Eat until you are stuffed.

Bad intent with food:

- Trying to make food fill a God sized void.
- Numbing pain with food.
- "I can at least control what I eat."
- Food becomes an addiction.

Food and the Gospel.

- The gospel is Good news. Food is good; a gift from God.

1 Timothy 6:17 As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.

John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

- Jesus does not want us to live meager lives, without laughter, without good food.
- Creation is to be enjoyed, not worshipped.

Taboo Topics Series Summary: These things are enjoyable, but make terrible masters.