



A SEAT AT THE  
**Table**



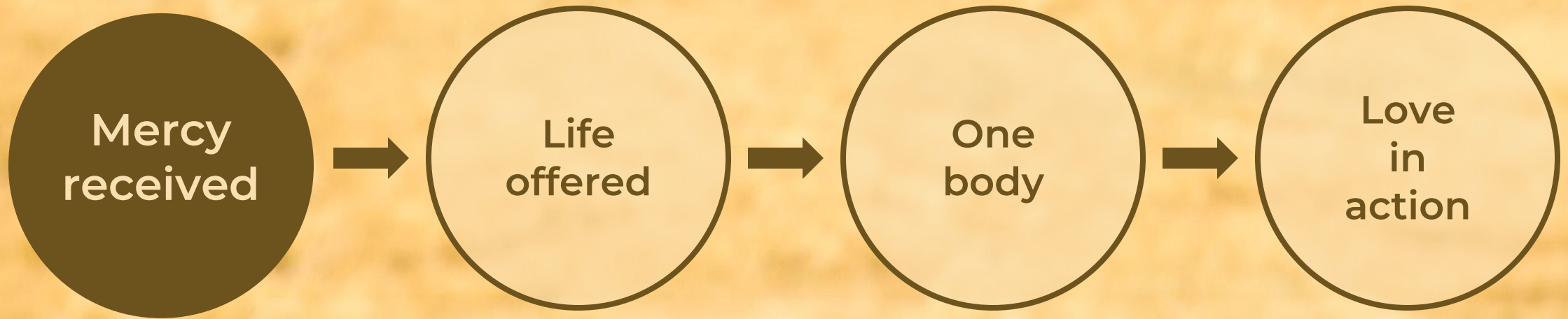
**Being connected does not  
necessarily mean being known.**

## Romans 12:1-2

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God - this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.



# The movement of Romans 12



**Mercy precedes surrender.  
Surrender becomes shared life.**

**A life offered to God becomes a life  
shared with people whose gifts I need,  
whose burdens I help carry, and  
whose lives are connected to mine.**



## Romans 12:3-8

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

# Sober judgment allows me to say...



# **1 Peter 4:10**

**"Each of you should use  
whatever gift you have received  
to serve others."**

**Faith is deeply personal, but it was  
never meant to remain private.**



## Romans 12:9-18

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

# **John 13:35**

**"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."**

# Hebrews 10:24-25

"Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds ... encouraging one another."

# **Fuller Youth Institute**

**“Young people need adults across the church who know their names, receive their questions, notice their absence, and remain present. They need more than a youth program; they need the body.”**



## **Galatians 6:2**

**"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."**

**Community is proven not by  
avoiding conflict, but by what love  
does when it comes.**



# **1 Corinthians 3:16-17**

**“Don’t you know that you yourselves are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in your midst? If anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy that person; for God’s temple is sacred, and you together are that temple.”**

Peace-seeking is not pretending nothing happened, making every conflict public, or ignoring harm. Shared life is not shared gossip. We go to one another rather than around one another. We take responsibility for our part, seek help when needed, and pursue truth and peace together.

# Henry Nouwen and Adam Arnett



# Sermon Resources

