

# Table Talk — Leader Guide

## Something Is About to Happen

Champion Church · Small Group Discussion Guide · Facilitator Edition

This week's message was called 'Something Is About to Happen'—a stirring call to spiritual expectation as we head into the Easter season. This week's Table-Talk is drawn from that message. We're gathering as a family to explore what it means to sense God's stirring, respond in faith, and position ourselves for what He's doing.

### Your Role as Facilitator

You are not the teacher today—you are a loving guide and table host. Your job is to create safe space, not fill it.

→ Read the prompts as written. Resist the urge to add theology or correct answers.

→ If the table goes quiet, wait 10 full seconds before prompting. Silence is okay—sometimes it means people are thinking deeply.

→ If someone dominates, gently redirect with warmth: 'That's great—who else wants to share their heart with us?'

→ If someone shares something heavy or vulnerable, affirm them deeply: 'Thank you for trusting us with that.' Hold space. You don't need to fix it.

→ Your own vulnerability unlocks the table. Share authentically with your group.

→ This is a safe place. Remind people through your tone, your pauses, and your genuine care that they are seen and loved here.

### THEME — READ TO SET THE CONTEXT

You know that feeling when something's about to shift? When the air feels different, and you can sense movement even before you see it? That's what happened at the triumphal entry—the crowd wasn't entirely sure what was unfolding, but they could feel the stirring. They knew something sacred was happening, and they responded with their whole hearts: singing, shouting, laying down branches. They didn't wait for complete understanding; they moved because they sensed God was doing something extraordinary. That same stirring is happening right now in our lives. As we head into Easter, God is moving in ways we can't fully explain yet—but we can feel it. Today, we're asking three questions together: Are we paying attention to God's stirring? Will we respond with faith before we have all the answers? And are we positioned for what comes next? This isn't just a discussion—it's a family moment where we pay attention to what God is doing in each other's lives.

### Facilitator Note — Opening

After reading the theme, pause and ask with genuine warmth: 'Before we jump in—has anyone been feeling lately like something is shifting? Like God might be getting ready to do something new in your life or in our church?'

→ This warms up the table and surfaces who might need the most space and care to share today.

→ You don't need to address every answer. Just nod, smile, and say: 'Good—let's dig in together.'

## **POINT 1: RECOGNIZE THE STIRRING [LEADER GUIDE]**

God has always stirred expectation before He moved. At the triumphal entry, the crowd didn't have a theological framework for what was happening—they just felt it. Jesus was moving toward Jerusalem, toward the cross, toward resurrection. And the people around Him could sense it. That restlessness in your spirit? That might not be anxiety at all. It might be anticipation. It might be the Holy Spirit stirring your heart to recognize that God is about to do something new. The first step is noticing. The first step is paying attention to what you're sensing, even if you don't fully understand it yet. This week, we want to help each other recognize God's stirring in our lives.

### **SCRIPTURE**

#### **Luke 19:37-38 (NLT)**

When he reached the place where the road started down the Mount of Olives, all of his followers began to shout and sing as they walked along, praising God for all the wonderful miracles they had seen. 'Blessings on the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in highest heaven!'

#### **Habakkuk 2:3 (NIV)**

For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay.

#### **1 Kings 19:11-12 (NIV)**

The Lord said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.' Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper.

**DISCUSSION: Take a moment and share with your group—when have you sensed something was shifting in your life? That stirring before God moved? What did that feel like in your heart?**

### **Facilitator Notes — Point 1**

Key Idea: God's stirring often comes before God's moving—and it's so easy to miss if you're not paying attention. Help your table recognize this gift.

→ After reading the discussion question, give 10 seconds of silence, then say: 'I'll start...' and share a brief, personal example. Your vulnerability opens the door.

→ Follow-up prompts if conversation stalls:

- 'Have you ever mistaken God's stirring for just anxiety or restlessness?'
- 'What does it feel like when you sense God is about to do something—how do you recognize it?'

→ Watch for: People who feel spiritually numb or disconnected. Don't argue—validate gently: 'That's an honest place to be. Sometimes the stirring starts quieter than we expect.'

→ Affirm people who share. Let them know that sensing God's movement is a gift.

→ Transition line: 'So if God is stirring—what do we do before we fully understand it? That's Point 2.'

## **POINT 2: RESPOND BEFORE YOU UNDERSTAND [LEADER GUIDE]**

The Pharisees wanted silence. They wanted everything to stop and be explained and rationalized. But Jesus said if the people kept quiet, the stones would burst into cheers. God doesn't wait for us to fully understand. God doesn't require a complete theological framework before asking us to move. Abraham didn't know where he was going when God called him to leave everything. But he packed up and walked. That's faith. That's the kind of response God honors. Sometimes God asks us to respond before we fully understand—and the understanding comes in the walking, not before it. This week, we're asking: What is God inviting you to trust Him with, even before you see the whole picture?

### **SCRIPTURE**

#### **Luke 19:39-40 (NLT)**

But some of the Pharisees among the crowd said, 'Teacher, rebuke your followers for saying things like that!' He replied, 'If they kept quiet, the stones along the road would burst into cheers!'

#### **Hebrews 11:8 (NIV)**

By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

#### **2 Corinthians 5:7 (NIV)**

For we live by faith, not by sight.

**DISCUSSION: Is there something right now that you feel God nudging you toward, even though it doesn't fully make sense yet? What would it look like to respond with faith?**

## Facilitator Notes — Point 2

Key Idea: Faith is responding to God before the full picture is clear—obedience doesn't require complete understanding. This is where you affirm courage.

→ The Abraham example is powerful here—he packed up and left without a destination. Help your people see the beauty and bravery in that kind of trust.

→ Follow-up prompts if conversation stalls:

- 'What's the hardest part about obeying when you can't see the whole plan?'
- 'Is there something you sense God nudging you toward right now?'

→ Watch for: Theological pushback ('But shouldn't we use wisdom?'). Affirm both: 'Absolutely—faith and wisdom aren't opposites. But sometimes wisdom says go before the spreadsheet says it's safe.'

→ Watch for: People who share specific areas where they feel God nudging. Encourage them gently without pressing for commitments. Affirm their faith.

→ Transition line: 'So God is stirring, and He's asking us to respond—now the question is: are we in position for what comes next? That's Point 3.'

## POINT 3: POSITION YOURSELF FOR WHAT'S NEXT [LEADER GUIDE]

All of creation is waiting for God to reveal who His children are. All of creation is on tiptoe, waiting to see what God will do next. If that's true—if God is about to move in real and tangible ways—then the question for us is simple: Are we positioned for it? Positioning isn't passive. It's the practical, loving things we do to get ready. It's prayer—real conversation with God. It's opening your heart to expectation. It's inviting someone into what God is doing. It's showing up to worship with an open spirit. It's removing the obstacles between you and God. Positioning means you're ready to move when God moves. And it means you're inviting others to move with you.

### SCRIPTURE

#### Romans 8:19 (NLT)

For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are.

#### Acts 3:19-20 (NLT)

Now repent of your sins and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped away. Then times of refreshing will come from the presence of the Lord, and he will again send you Jesus, your appointed Messiah.

#### Isaiah 43:19 (NIV)

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

**DISCUSSION: What does positioning look like for you right now? What's one thing you could do this week to get ready for what God is about to do?**

**Facilitator Notes — Point 3**

Key Idea: Positioning is practical—it's the things you do to get ready for what God is preparing, even before it arrives.

→ This is the most practical point. Press for specific, concrete action steps, but gently and with encouragement.

→ Follow-up prompts if conversation stalls:

- 'If you knew for certain God was about to move in your life in the next 30 days—what would you do differently starting tomorrow?'
- 'What does it look like to invite someone into what God is doing—especially heading into Easter?'

→ Encourage everyone to land on one specific takeaway—something to carry into the week.

→ Closing move: Before prayer, go around the table and ask each person to share ONE word that describes how they want to respond to what God is stirring—expectation, boldness, trust, readiness, hope, etc.

→ Use those words to close in prayer, naming each person's word as you lift them up. This personalizes the prayer and shows that you've been listening.

**CLOSE IN PRAYER**

Invite someone at the table to close in prayer—ideally someone whose faith might inspire the group. Ask God to open eyes to what He's stirring, give courage to respond before the full picture is clear, and help each person position themselves for what's next. Pray for each other with genuine love and care.

**Facilitator Notes — Closing**

→ If no one volunteers to pray, it's okay to close yourself. Keep it brief, personal, and warm.

→ Reference the specific things people shared—this signals that what they said mattered and that you were truly listening.

→ End with something like: 'God, we can feel the stirring. We don't need all the answers right now. We're responding now—and we're positioning ourselves for what You're about to do. Help us support each other as we step out in faith.'

→ Pray for each person by name if possible. If people shared vulnerabilities, gently hold those in prayer.

→ After prayer: remind the table when the next gathering is and encourage anyone who shared something heavy to connect with a pastor or care team if they need support. Let them know they matter.