



Session 6: Jesus Loved to Party

October 14, 2019 • Rev. Doug Gray

First Church of Squantum

Bible Study Based on Leonard Sweet's

***The Bad Habits of Jesus: Showing Us How
to Live Right in a World Gone Wrong***

I. Introductions and Prayer

A. Leonard Sweet writes: “If they’d had paparazzi back in the first century, Jesus would have been in a lot of their pictures. He would have gotten past the velvet rope at any club in town. He was in

high demand as a guest.

Why? Because Jesus was the life of every party. So much so that less-than-kosher people often hosted VIP events for him, causing the religious establishment to

label him a party animal.” (p. 81)

II. God Made Us for Joy and Delight

A. Read Psalm 16. What’s the general tone or mood of this psalm?

B. Who are the two kinds of people on David's mind? (See vss. 3–4) What comes to each of those groups?

C. David turns to naming his blessings. What ones does he start with? What are the others?

D. When David thinks about his blessings, what does it lead him to do?

E. This Psalm was thought by early Christians to speak prophetically about Jesus. What parts of this psalm resonate with Jesus?

III. Jesus Loved to Party

A. Read Matthew 9:9–13.

What are some things you notice? Are you surprised by Jesus' response to the disciples in the second section?

B. What do you think the mood at dinner was that night? Why?

C. Why are the religious leaders concerned about who Jesus is eating with?

D. Jesus responds by quoting from Hosea 6:6. Read Hosea

6:1–6. What does this passage say about what God was hoping for from God's people?

E. Loving God is serious...or is it? What role does delight play in your thinking about God?

F. Why do you think some people aren't sure whether they can be truly happy about knowing God?

G. Since God throws a party for those who "come home," should we always rejoice, especially if the person shows

a pattern of “back-sliding”?mail

IV. Conclusions: Jesus Offends Us Too!

“The church above all should be a place of festivities and joy. People should look at the

church and think, *What joyful people!* If more of the church shared Jesus' bad habit of loving to party, it would be the place everyone would want to be." (p. 87)