

**Enjoy a Good Meal  
With a Friend  
or Friends as  
Often as You Can**

**55**

Whenever possible, enjoy a special meal with a good friend or friends. Make the place you eat a happy, bright and decorative place, a spot where you enjoy sitting. Don't rush your meal. Make it a time of fellowship and special occasion with that particular friend or friends.

Perhaps a late breakfast would be a good time to have such a meal. I've noticed in most restaurants, where I've tarried and eaten, that the breakfast table seems to have a brighter setting of dishes. Even the tablecloths are brighter. Make these occasions very special times with your friends.

If there are things you wish to discuss, jot them down before the meal begins. But don't mention them during the meal. Once the meal is over and you're having a second cup of coffee or tea, then feel free to discuss the things you want to discuss.

People are so busy today that we don't have time to fellowship with one another. We grab a sandwich at a fast-food place, not only for breakfast but usually two or three meals a day. Mealttime should be a leisure time, a happy time.

Even when you are eating in restaurants, you are often

rushed after having to wait in line. And there are so many noises and distractions that one can hardly fellowship. Having special people into your home will make them feel special.

Since my illness, when I have been somewhat confined, I've especially enjoyed having breakfast with my grown daughters who take turns spending some time with me. And occasionally I'll invite a friend over to join us for breakfast.

I didn't realize how much conversation I had missed out on with special people. Starting out as a teenage husband, father and preacher, wanting to "make my mark in life," so to speak (in other words, I wanted to be successful as God's servant), I didn't take enough time for these special occasions.

I cannot imagine the marriage supper of the Lamb being some kind of a hectic event when we are racing to see who can finish first, but a time when every moment is enjoyed by everyone who's present. I want to make every mealtime a happy time but especially these special occasions when we have visitors in.