

Sports Breakfasts & Dinners



RUN WITH IT

Sports breakfasts & dinners

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Overview

A sports dinner or breakfast is when people are invited to listen to a speaker over a meal. Outreach meals are a terrific way to engage with not yet believers and communicate the gospel in a relaxing, relevant and non-churchy environment. Meals can be organised independently or connected to another sports event such as a game screening or a Golf Day.



Goal

To serve local churches by staging a meal where a church 'takes a table' (or more) and fills it with a balance of believers and not yet believers who have a great time building relationships and listening to an influential Christian testimony and message whilst eating great food.

Imagine...

10 churches in your city filling a table of 10 people, with 5 believers having all invited a not yet believing friend to a great non-church environment that everybody knows. Picture great food and chat on each table as people get to know one another. Then a relevant and respected sports personality (local or famous) shares his or her testimony and challenges all to follow Jesus in a suitable way. Imagine people praying to receive Christ or intrigued to discover more with the believer who invited them as they continue to journey after the event.

Target Audience

Adults and older teenagers.

What can it achieve?

An outreach meal can help churches work together in the community as well as mobilise believers into relational and invitational mission. It provides an ideal opportunity for believers to bring friends to hear the gospel from somebody else, and for guests to be followed up through information they complete at the event in response to the challenge or / and by the believer that invited them and their church.

Key Principles

1. Churches take tables
2. Believers invite not yet believing friends
3. Venue and food need to be good and away from the church building
4. Choose a suitable MC to inform and introduce speaker
5. The speaker should be at least one skill level higher than the audience
6. Food first, then the talk
7. Speaker talks for 30 minutes max and gives an opportunity for people to receive Jesus.
8. Church service type activities prohibited (singing etc)
9. Speaker avoids common Christian language.
10. Believers encourage guests to complete feedback forms on table at the end.

Ideal numbers

From 50-300 (depending upon venue)

Venue

A sports bar, local pub, health club, well maintained village hall, Hotel.



Proclamation

The gospel is shared by the speaker through his or her testimony and backed up by the believer who has invited the guest(s).

Discipleship

An outreach meal is a really good way to encourage effective discipleship as believers are encouraged and equipped to invite not yet believing friends who they are praying for and hopefully journeying with. The meal can be a part of that process and help trigger intentional discussion after the event to encourage conversion commitment as well as next step discipleship with those that made a genuine commitment at the event.



Stories

“The first time we did an outreach meal we had an ex-international cricket player come to share his story. Eight churches helped fill 24 tables reaching 240 people who were largely not yet Christian. It was a great night of fun, laughter and great food and the speaker really moved people with his story and direct challenge to follow Jesus. When we reviewed the response cards we saw 38 men and women decide to follow Jesus that night and a further 61 wanting to talk more about spiritual matters! Church visitation teams were mobilised and we even started a sports discipleship group for new believers.”

Supporting resources

Workers Required:

- Outreach meal facilitator (overseer)
- Set up and break down volunteers
- Administrator
- Caterer (if not provided by the facility)
- Food and drinks servers (if not provided by facility)
- Speaker

Equipment Needed:

Tables & Chairs
Response cards / forms
Relevant Christian sports literature to take away
Sound system & microphone



Ministry Resources:

Sports ministry tracts, Gospel booklets, bibles, posters (Contact us for more information)

Next Steps

1. Pray for vision and wisdom
2. Establish a prayer team to intercede for the planned outreach meal
3. Build a volunteer team to plan and implement the event (WSM specialises in helping form and equip sports ministry teams to stage events such as this one) Visit our Community Sports Team page: www.worldsportministries.com/helping-you/join-or-start-a-cst-2/
4. Invite and secure a suitable speaker for the event
5. Secure a venue and source the equipment needed (from church?)

6. Envision the church / group of local churches
7. Promote and advertise the dinner / breakfast locally
8. Equip believers in right conduct for the event and how to follow-through with guests afterwards.

For more detailed guidelines on staging an outreach meal contact us:
adults@worldsportministries.com

Start a Community Sports Team

Beginning a Community Sports Team in your area and receiving training will help support you further to be able to effectively put on a sports breakfast or dinner.

Starting a CST will enable you to have a base of volunteers to run the event and will provide you with support for prayer, resources and church/organisation contacts. A Community Sports Team will enable you to use your networks to find the right people, a speaker, venue and resources to put on a breakfast or dinner to reach people and follow up with them after the event.

For more information on establishing a Community Sports Team visit:

www.worldsportministries.com/helping-you/join-or-start-a-cst-2/



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