



The Storyteller: Great Banquet

LUKE 14:12-24 | NOVEMBER 7 & 8, 2015

Last week we introduced Jesus, The Storyteller, and we looked at the first of several parables he told in Luke 14 and Luke 15. We considered the nature and value of parables and heard some instruction about feasts. First, do not sit in the seats of honor. Second, if you host a feast, consider opening your dinner up to those who are needy but may not be able to repay you. This week, we are at the same meal when Jesus tells another parable. If the meal and Jesus' teaching weren't already memorable, Jesus now ensured they would never forget it.

WITH THE GROUP



LEARNING | BEGINNING TO CONNECT WITH THE TOPIC

What is a meal or banquet that you remember well?



LEARNING | GETTING CLEAR ON WHAT WAS TAUGHT

What is Jesus trying to communicate by the three excuses given in his parable ("I must go see the field", "I am trying out my new oxen", "I just got married")?

What is the response of the banquet host? Who do you think these figures represent and what is the larger message here?



LOVING | GROWING OUR HEART FOR A LOVING GOD

What part of the message or the text most surprised you, instructed you or confused you?

Consider Isaiah 25:6, Isaiah 61:1-2, Luke 4:18-19 and this week's parable with its eventual banquet guests. What pattern do you notice? What does it suggest about God's love?



LIVING | STARTING TO LIVE LIKE JESUS DAILY

The banquet guests made excuses for why they would not attend the banquet. They did not care for what "God" (the banquet host) was offering? Have you accepted the invitation? What would it mean for them to "count the cost"? Have you "counted the cost" or do you find yourself making excuses?

Pastor Mike described feeling like heaven isn't well marketed. What is desirable about heaven? What does it mean to "seek the Kingdom of God?"

DIGGING DEEPER

Read John 14:1-6. Read Revelation 21:1-7, Isaiah 55:1-6 and Revelation 22:7-21. Using the passages shared here, what is the view you get of God's love and of eternity with him? Are there other passages that encourage you?

GRADUATE LEVEL

To what extent are the Jewish people God's special people? To what extent has God opened the doors of heaven? Who are the people that God loves and invites into life with him?