



WEEK 4: PARABLE OF THE GREAT FEAST

ICE BREAKER

WORSHIP

PRAYER

SERMON REWIND

The sermon explores the theme of humility and the contrast between the Jews and Gentiles in understanding Jesus' message. It highlights that those who think highly of themselves often miss the true essence of the gospel, while the outsiders embrace it with open hearts. Additionally, it addresses the excuses people make to avoid responding to Jesus' invitation, demonstrating how life's distractions can lead them to reject a relationship with Him. Ultimately, the sermon reassures that acceptance into God's kingdom is not based on qualifications but simply on willingness to accept His invitation.

KEY VERSES

Look up theses additional verses:

Luke 14:1-14 (NIV)

Luke 14:15-24 (NIV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1

Life Gets Busy

The pastor talked about how people made excuses to avoid attending the feast, showing how busy life can become.

- a. Why are we so quick to make excuses when it comes to fulfilling an important charge?
- b. Can you think of a time when you made excuses to avoid something important? How did that affect you?

2

Danger of Assumption

The sermon discusses how thinking you have God figured out can make you miss what you really need.

- a. What is the danger in having a false sense of perfection or self-reliance in your relationship with God?
- b. Have you ever felt like you didn't need God in a situation? How did that turn out for you?

3

Invitation to the Kingdom

The sermon emphasizes that those who we might not expect can accept the invitation to God's Kingdom.

- a. How does the idea of the 'outsiders becoming insiders' challenge our thinking about the perspective of the Kingdom?
- b. Is there someone you know who you think might never accept Jesus? How can you change your perspective on them?

4

Steady Lifestyle

The sermon mentions that people initially said 'yes' but then changed their minds and didn't attend.

- a. Why do you think it's important to be consistent and keep your word when it comes to commitments like faith?
- b. Reflect on a commitment you've made. How can you ensure that you follow through on it in the future?

5

A Willing Heart

The sermon highlights that there are no prerequisites to accepting Jesus; all that's needed is willingness.

- a. How does "no prerequisites" change your mind on how God's Kingdom sees acceptance differently?
- b. How does "no prerequisites" begin to transform how we accept and love those around us?

Reminder: We learn from Jesus to then live out His lifestyle for others. We are showing people who He is in everyday living and interactions with people.

DIVE DEEPER

Personal Reflection: Take a deep breath and read...

Excuses and self-righteousness make us miss out on the richness of Jesus' love for us and others. Teachings like this are love-filled parables to bring us back to His Kingdom lifestyle.

- Have you denied someone love because of an excuse or you thought highly of yourself? For future encouragement, how might Jesus have loved them?
- If you feel guilty about this experience, how do you think Jesus wants to care for you on your side of the situation?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

This week: Create a habit of consistency (reading Scripture, praying, serving):

- Acknowledge excuses and stay dedicated to consistency.
- Keep each other accountable.

Ask the Holy Spirit to help you be consistent and see others the way He does.

PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME

Closing Scripture:

Psalms 73:28: "But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord God my refuge, that I may tell of all your works."

Let the group rest in that promise as you close together in prayer.

NOTES

[illegible]