



October 5-6, 2019 Sermon
“God’s Banquet”

Luke 14:15-24

Home Group discussion questions are written by Pastor Art Hunt.
Contact him at art@lighthousehome.org.

Connect: Talk about your decision to follow Jesus. Was it a long process or a short one? Did excuses sometimes keep you from going ahead and making the decision? If so, what were those excuses? If none of your group remembers such excuses, what excuses do you hear from others today?

1. Read Luke 14:14—the context

- Verse 14 refers to believers’ choices to humbly serve others who are unable to reciprocate, to which Jesus says, “. . .you [believers] *will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.*”
 - What is the cost to serving others; tangible costs and intangible costs?
 - How do Jesus’ words—“you will be repaid”—make you feel?
 - Does this declaration encourage you to serve God by serving others? Why or why not?
- Why does this verse call believers “the righteous” (or “the just”)? If you need help, refresh your memory by reading 1 Cor 1:30-31; Phil 3:9; Rom 3:22-24; 4:5, and Eph 5:24-27 which are verses that support a theological concept called “imputed righteousness.” After reading the passages, what do you think “imputed righteous” means?

2. Read Luke 14:15—the setting.

- *When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, “Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!”* Luke 14:15
- How is the person who attends this feast, as Jesus said, “blessed?” (Ephesians 1:3-10 tell much of these blessings!)
- The “wedding supper of the Lamb” is talked about in Revelation 19:6-9. (*Read*)
 - Who is the “bride” at this supper?
 - As you reflect upon this feast, what words come to mind that describe the event, and what emotions surface?

3. Read Luke 14:16-23—the parable.

- Verse 16 starts with “But he said to him. . .” What is the implication of the word “but”? In light of that implication, how should the parable be read? In other words, what do you think Jesus’ purpose was for telling the parable?
- “The double invitation to the guest was characteristic of ancient practices. The excuses for not coming would have sounded extremely lame to the audience.” (From New Bible Dictionary.)
- So, what then was Jesus saying by including these lame excuses?
- In light of Jesus’ words, who is to be extended an invitation to know Jesus?
 - If this passage were written today, what categories might Jesus have put in instead of “poor, crippled and lame?”
 - What is your biggest hinderance to “going out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city” and “bringing in the poor and crippled and lame?”

- What experiences have either strengthened your determination to “make the invitations” or have discouraged you from extending the invitation.

4. Read Luke 14:24.

- a. What is Jesus' very blunt point?
- b. What are your thoughts or feelings about His point?

Care Group Leader Notes.

Do not hand out these notes to your group members.

- Remember that you can ask all of the questions or none! You may add questions of your own. The purpose is for the group to come to grips with the major teaching of the passage and how to apply it to their lives.
- The parable is about the fact that not everyone accepts God's invitation. The result is that they do not attend His banquet or the "wedding supper of the lamb." It's a hard truth but one that should motivate us to care about extending God's invitation.