

WEEK 38:

WELCOMED TO THE FEAST

PRIMARY SCRIPTURE:

Luke 14:12-24

RELATED SCRIPTURES:

Isaiah 25:6-9, Matthew 5:2-12, 21:33-43 and 22:1-14,
Luke 6:20-23 and 13:28-30, John 6, Revelation 19

“All things are ready,’ come to the feast! Come, for the table now is spread; Ye famishing, ye weary, come, And thou shalt be richly fed!”

- Charles H. Gabriel

PERSONAL STUDY:

Would you say you are regularly invited to parties, events and to hang out with friends or do you frequently find yourself on the outside looking in? When it comes to God’s kingdom, are you more likely to believe that God gladly wants you to feast with Him, or that He is bothered by your presence? What are the inherent spiritual dangers in either belief?

Read Luke 14:1-24. What does the man mean in v. 15 when he says “Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!”? What are his assumptions? How does he misunderstand what Jesus has been teaching in v. 1-14?

Read Luke 14:18-20. What excuses do you tend to give (to God, yourself or others) for why you have little time and energy to give to God? How are you actively cultivating time to grow your relationship with God and engage in His kingdom?

Read Luke 14:21-24, 6:20-23 and Matthew 5:2-12. What are the spiritual advantages that Jesus attributes to the weak, the crippled, the poor and the foreigner? What about your life makes it hard to recognize your spiritual poverty? What facets of pride most numb you to the reality of what Jesus has done for you and your desperate need for Him to do so?

Who are two people that you could invite into your LifeGroup?

SERMON NOTES:



LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION:

When in your life have you been most confronted with your own neediness? How do you respond to your own weakness?



Read Luke 14:15-24. We all make self-sufficient excuses to avoid Jesus' grace. What form do yours take? What do our excuses expose about our fundamental misunderstandings of the gospel?

Read Luke 14:23. God is a gracious host with every intent of welcoming a full house in for His feast. What counterfeit pictures of God crowd out this truth in your mind?



Read Romans 15:1-7. If someone had no evidence other than our LifeGroup, would they conclude that the God we worship is in the business of non-stop inviting in those with nothing to offer Him? Why or why not?

Reread Romans 15:7. What sins did pay for in order to welcome you into His family? Pray for the Holy Spirit to use Jesus' gracious welcome to motivate our own non-stop, gracious invitation to those who are far from have nothing to offer to God.

