# RIVER POINTE | WEST END CHURCH

## **SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE**



LUKE CHAD BRUEGMAN SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

If you would like to watch the message, visit rpc.me/messages.

## **ICEBREAKER**

• Tell about a favorite wedding, gala or banquet you've attended. Briefly describe the gathering including any fancy meals and your experience as a guest.

#### **READ**

Luke 14:12-14

### **QUESTIONS**

- While Jesus was dining at the Pharisee's house, what behavior did Jesus notice about the dinner guest? (the dinner host only invited individuals if it benefited him and he did not invite those who were not an acquaintance)
- Who is Jesus saying should be invited to dinners and banquets and for what reason?
  (expand the invite to everyone, invite people to extend kindness and generosity, not for your own gain. Jesus wants his followers to serve everyone)

#### **READ**

Luke 12:15-23

## **QUESTIONS**

 Who is the "blessed" one described by Jesus in verse 15? (one who has placed their faith in Jesus)

The great banquet is an analogy about the Kingdom of God. Defining the elements of this parable helps us to understand the story:

Man/Master: God

o Feast: Reference to Heaven

Servants: Those who are the gospel

Guests: Those away from God

- The responses of those invited are described as "excuses" implying these were not good reasons. What were the three excuses given? (bought a field, bought 5 pairs of oxen, and just got married) How do you feel about the excuses given?
- What is the worst excuse you've used to turn down an invitation?
- How does the banquet host fill the open room, who does he invite? (the poor in the streets and valleys of the town, the crippled, the blind and the lame) When there is still more room, who else did the host extend the invite to? (those beyond the normal country lanes)
- What do you find challenging about inviting others outside your circle to dinner, outings, or events?
- Who can you invite to dinner next week or to sit with you at church?
- What does this parable reveal about the Kingdom of God? (The invitation into God's kingdom is for everyone, though God is patient and wants no one to perish, there will be a time when the invitation closes. Like in this parable, there is no good excuse for missing God)
- How does this scene encourage you to share the gospel?

**THE THREE QUESTIONS:** The following questions are intended to be open-ended and encourage members to consider how they felt and what they, or the group, can do as a result of hearing the message.

- What did you hear? What point in this message was most impactful for you?
- What do you think? How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?
- What will you do? How will you or your group put into practice what you've learned today?

**CLOSE IN PRAYER:** How can the group pray for you now and in the days ahead?

**LEADERS:** Please take attendance. Every week encourage someone to share a little bit of their story. A great format is to share about 3 positive and 3 negative things that have had an impact on who you are today. Who would like to do this next week?