

Jesus and the Pharisees

Lesson #24

Luke 14:1-24

Another Dinner Invitation – Luke 14:1-14

1. Luke records a second dinner invitation Jesus received to a Pharisee's home. The last time he had been invited (chapter 11), Jesus pronounced six "woes" on the Pharisees and teachers of the law. Using 14:1:
 - On what day did this meal take place?
 - How was the host Pharisee described?
 - What does Luke mention about Jesus?
2. Once again, the issue of healing on the Sabbath takes center stage. A man suffering from dropsy (edema) was being used as a trap. Knowing this, Jesus asked, "*Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath or not?*" How did the Pharisees answer Jesus? (Luke 14:4a)
3. Luke said that Jesus "saw" the man in front of him suffering so he "took hold of the man" and healed him. Notice the touch of compassion Jesus gave the suffering man. Jesus reminded the Pharisees that they would surely show compassion to their own sons or even an ox on the Sabbath, yet they refused a suffering person. What was their response to Jesus' accusation? (Luke 14:6)
4. What else did Jesus notice going on at this dinner? (Luke 14:7)

Parable of the Wedding Feast – Luke 14:8-14

5. Once again, Jesus used this opportunity to teach through parables. Using Luke 14:8-10:
 - What did Jesus say a guest invited to a banquet should not do?
 - Why?
 - What then should an invited guest do?

- Why?
6. What is Jesus teaching with this parable? (Luke 14:11)
7. Although this type of hospitality and its accompanying seating arrangement is culturally specific, do you see a principle that could be applied today?
8. Jesus continued with another culturally specific teaching on what type of guests they should be invited to a meal. Using Luke 14:12-14:
- Whom did Jesus say they were currently inviting?
 - Why were they inviting these people?
 - Whom did Jesus say they should be inviting?
 - Why?

The Parable of The Great Banquet – Luke 14:15-24

9. Continuing with his theme of “banquets,” Luke records another banquet parable Jesus taught called “The Great Banquet.” What precipitated this teaching? (Luke 14:15)
10. Read the parable in Luke 14:16-24. In response to the man’s reference to God’s banquet, Jesus then told about a “certain man” who was preparing a great banquet. How many guests did the man invite? (Luke 14:16)

11. When the banquet was ready, and those who had been invited were called to come, how did these guests respond? (Luke 14:18-20)

12. When the servant reported their R.S.V.P.'s back to the master, what did he do? (Luke 14:21)

13. The servant did as directed, then made a second report. What does the master say this time? (Luke 14:22)

14. How did Jesus end this parable? (Luke 14:23 & 24)

15. In order to understand what Jesus was saying in this parable, think back over the three banquet settings about which Jesus taught. What was the setting of these parables? (Luke 14:1)

16. Who was Jesus' audience? (Luke 14:3 & 12)

17. What had Jesus just done? (Luke 14:4)

18. Using that information, whom do you think Jesus was directing his comments towards as the ones who were invited, but who would not taste the banquet?
 - Why?