



I. REVIEW/INTRO

A. Lunch with Jesus

Luke 19:10 (NLT) For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost."

B. Jesus used meals to reveal the mission

Luke 7:34 (NLT) The Son of Man, on the other hand, feasts and drinks, and you say, 'He's a glutton and a drunkard, and a friend of tax collectors and other sinners!'

C. At the table, Jesus redefined who belonged, mattered, and what grace looked like

- **Matthew's House**
 - **Lesson:** Jesus meets people *where they are*, not where they "should" be.
- **Feeding the 5,000**
 - Pastor Steph, what are you packing your kid with?
- **The woman with the Alabaster Jar (Luke 7)**
 - **Lesson:** Grace makes room and forgiveness fuels extravagant worship.
- **Mary & Martha (Luke 10)**
 - **Lesson:** Busyness can keep us near Jesus but far from intimacy.

II. THE STORY

A. A masterclass on the Kingdom of God

- This is one of the most layered and confrontational meals in all of Luke.

John 1:1-5 (NKJV) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

John 1:14 (NKJV) And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:10-11 (NKJV) He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

B. The set up

Luke 14:1-2 (NLT) One Sabbath day Jesus went to eat dinner in the home of a leader of the Pharisees, and the people were watching him closely. There was a man there whose arms and legs were swollen.

- This man is out of place in this story.

Luke 14:3-5 (NLT) Jesus asked the Pharisees and experts in religious law, "Is it permitted in the law to heal people on the Sabbath day, or not?" When they refused to answer, Jesus touched the sick man and healed him and sent him away. Then he turned to them and said,



“Which of you doesn’t work on the Sabbath? If your son or your cow falls into a pit, don’t you rush to get him out?” Again they could not answer.

- Are we proving a point, or making a difference?

C. The tables are turned

Luke 14:7-9 (NLT) When Jesus noticed that all who had come to the dinner were trying to sit in the seats of honor near the head of the table, he gave them this advice: “When you are invited to a wedding feast, don’t sit in the seat of honor. What if someone who is more distinguished than you has also been invited? The host will come and say, ‘Give this person your seat.’ Then you will be embarrassed, and you will have to take whatever seat is left at the foot of the table!

Luke 14:10-11 (NLT) “Instead, take the lowest place at the foot of the table. Then when your host sees you, he will come and say, ‘Friend, we have a better place for you!’ Then you will be honored in front of all the other guests. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

Luke 14:12-14 (NLT) Then he turned to his host. “When you put on a luncheon or a banquet,” he said, “don’t invite your friends, brothers, relatives, and rich neighbors. For they will invite you back, and that will be your only reward. Instead, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. Then at the resurrection of the righteous, God will reward you for inviting those who could not repay you.”

Luke 14:15 (NLT) Hearing this, a man sitting at the table with Jesus exclaimed, “What a blessing it will be to attend a banquet in the Kingdom of God!”

D. One story with many layers and applications

Luke 14:16-23 (NLT) Jesus replied with this story: “A man prepared a great feast and sent out many invitations. When the banquet was ready, he sent his servant to tell the guests, ‘Come, the banquet is ready.’ But they all began making excuses. One said, ‘I have just bought a field and must inspect it. Please excuse me.’ Another said, ‘I have just bought five pairs of oxen, and I want to try them out. Please excuse me.’ Another said, ‘I just got married, so I can’t come.’ “The servant returned and told his master what they had said. His master was furious and said, ‘Go quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and invite the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.’ After the servant had done this, he reported, ‘There is still room for more.’ So his master said, ‘Go out into the country lanes and behind the hedges and urge anyone you find to come, so that the house will be full.

- This story isn’t just about them, it’s a mirror to see ourselves in.

III. WHERE AM I IN THIS STORY?

- A. I assume I have a seat
- B. Just happy to be invited
- C. The excuse maker?