

Spending Time with Jesus in Luke 14

Don't forget to invite Jesus to speak to you as you read this week.

First read through: Read Chapter 14 all the way through, imagining you are there.

Second read through: Look for themes and underline them in the color on your key.

What do you notice?

1)

2)

3)

Third read through: Answer questions as you go.

Luke 14:1-14

Boy, this sounds familiar! What do you see that is the same or similar in these stories?

Luke 6:6-1

13:10-17

14:1-6

What's different?

Luke 6:6-1

13:10-17

14:1-6

After his opponents were humiliated (and, we can assume they were therefore silent), what does Jesus describe through word pictures in 13:18-21?

In 14:7, Luke says Jesus is telling them a parable. Do you think he's still describing the kingdom of God? Why or why not?

Where else in Luke does Jesus teach this idea: "For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."?

Luke ch ___ verses ___ - ___ Summary:

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What do the poor, the crippled, the lame and the blind have in common?

If someone invited them to a banquet in those days, what would they be doing for their status? _____ Any ideas on why Jesus mentioned them being repaid?

Luke 14:15-24

Am I the only one getting hungry? Just curious...if you have a quizzing portion with a concordance at the back, look up how many times Luke mentions eat/eats/eating __, banquet/banquets __, fattened calf __, feast __, table __, luncheon __, meal __, dinner __, celebrate __. Can you find other similar words?

Think of all the stories that happen at meals in Luke (from chapter 1 – 24). Get a stopwatch out. How many can you name in 3 minutes?

And GO!

In that culture, eating together indicated relationship. You knew exactly how much you were valued based on if you were invited to a meal...and then, where you were seated. And if you refused an invitation, that also told the whole village how much you valued the one who invited you.

Do you think the man in verse 15 knows what he is talking about when he brings up feasting in the kingdom of God? Who would you guess the Jews assumed would naturally be there?

Jesus uses another parable to explain what they aren't yet grasping. He's still trying to get them to see that they could miss out...are missing out...on the kingdom of God. They are sitting there, feasting with him, and they don't get it. Look back at 4:18-21. What are Jesus' words in 4:21? _____. So, the kingdom of God is there; everyone humbly following Jesus is a part of it. Does the man in 14:15 realize this?

If sitting at a meal together indicated relationship, what does it mean when the guests make excuses?

What does the last guest not even say that the other two did? _____.
What could this mean?

Do their excuses seem legit to you?

Why does Jesus call this master/owner of the house just "a certain man" at the beginning of the parable?

It seems that the story would be done after the servant says, "what you ordered has been done." Why does Jesus add the part about there still being room?

What do you notice about the master's instructions to his servant in v 23-4?

Luke 14:25-35

What...hate my family?! That doesn't sound like something God would want, Jesus.

So, this is a puzzle. The Biblical authors put these in to make us stop and ask Jesus to explain it to us.

There's also something important in their culture that we miss: In the world of the Old Testament and the Jews of Jesus' day:

To love = to be loyal to the one you were in covenant with

For instance, this is what is meant by:

“Love the Lord your God with ALL your heart, soul, mind and strength.”

To hate = to be loyal to someone else, in this case to Jesus

Jesus is speaking to them about their absolute loyalty. We cannot be his disciple if we are ultimately loyal to ANYONE else...even ourselves. It makes sense. If we are loyal to Jesus...if he is always the one we desire to please above all else and to be closest to, then his love fills our hearts and we can be truly loving to our family. His love is selfless. If we aren't letting him be our one and only Sovereign, our love will not be the selfless, life-giving love God designed us to have for one another.

Remember also, Jesus is going to _____ (9:51) and nothing will stop him. He's making sure these large crowds know the cost of following him.

Jesus wants us to understand what it will cost to follow him. It is a HUGE ask still today.

Jesus says that those who want to follow him need to consider this: they can't follow him unless they

_____ (14:27)

(Remember 9:23? What does it mean when the Bible says the same thing twice?)

AND _____ (14:33)

Lord, help me count the cost. Am I loyal to anything or anyone before you?