




TALES
OF
THE
KINGDOM

 New Life Christian Center
July 14, 2024

Pastor David Larson | Turlock

“ I’M INVITED!”

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!” 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. For none of those I first invited will get even the smallest taste of my banquet.’” Luke 14:15-24 (NLT)

1. I’m invited into _____.

Look! Here I stand at the door and knock. If you hear me calling and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal as friends. Revelation 3:20 (NLT)

2. I’m invited to experience His _____.


After the servant had done this, he reported, ‘There is still room for more.’ Luke 14:22 (NLT)

3. I’m invited to _____ the _____ to others.

And people will come from all over the world - from east and west, north and south - to take their places in the Kingdom of God. And note this: Some who seem least important now will be the greatest then, and some who are the greatest now will be least important then.” Luke 13:29-30 (NLT)



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1. I’m invited into RELATIONSHIP.

Look! Here I stand at the door and knock. If you hear me calling and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal as friends. Revelation 3:20 (NLT)

2. I’m invited to experience His GRACE.

After the servant had done this, he reported, ‘There is still room for more.’ Luke 14:22 (NLT)

3. I’m invited to EXTEND the INVITATION to others.

And people will come from all over the world - from east and west, north and south - to take their places in the Kingdom of God. And note this: Some who seem least important now will be the greatest then, and some who are the greatest now will be least important then.” Luke 13:29-30 (NLT)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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[CONNECT]

What's the best invitation you've ever received? How did it feel to be invited?

[ENGAGE]

What impacted you the most personally from the message?

[GROW]

Read Luke 14:16-24

1. What do the excuses given by the initial guests in the parable reveal about their priorities and attitudes towards the invitation?
2. How does the master's reaction to the declined invitations reveal God's heart towards those who are often overlooked or marginalized?
3. What do Jesus' words in Revelation 3:20 reveal about the relationship He desires with us?
4. Reflect on your own life: Are there any "excuses" you have been making that prevent you from fully accepting Jesus' invitation to a deeper relationship with Him? What steps can you take to overcome these excuses?
5. Jesus' invitation in Revelation 3:20 is personal and intimate. How can you create space in your daily routine to "open the door" and spend time with Him?

[LEAD (YOURSELF)]

Jesus' invitation to the table is inclusive and has room for everyone. Identify one person in your life who might feel unworthy or excluded. How can you intentionally reach out to them and invite them to experience God's love and grace?