

THE INVITATION Connect Group Notes



You're invited to the Great Banquet.

FOR THE FACILITATOR

Encourage the group to take turns reading and answering questions. It is best to ask the questions as they appear instead of waiting till the end.

TOPIC : The invitation - you are invited to the great banquet

To find this sermon visit www.outlookchurch.co.za/sermons

MEDITATION TIME:

(NOTE TO FACILITATORS: The first part of the notes is practical meditation on the passages of scripture using the basic questions below to

guide you. You may find that this exercise takes up all the time and you don't get to the rest of the questions and notes - that's ok. The real goal is to get people practicing chewing on scripture together)

Take time to read the passages below (suggest you read one verse each in a circle) and then meditate on them as a group using the questions below to guide you:

Luke 14:15-24

When one of those at the table with him heard this, he said to Jesus, "Blessed is the one who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God."

Jesus replied: "A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests. At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.' "But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said, 'I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.'

"Another said, 'I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I'm on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.'

"Still another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come."

"The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.'

"'Sir,' the servant said, 'what you ordered has been done, but there is still room.'

"Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full. I tell you, not one of those who were invited will get a taste of my banquet.'"

MEDITATION QUESTIONS:

- What verse or phrase stood out to you the most (your underline or highlight moment)
- What does that highlight mean to you what do you think the Holy Spirit is saying?
- Why do you think the Holy Spirit is highlighting this verse to you at this time in your life?

GOING DEEPER:

From this passage we need to take in three main things:

 The Kings of kings invites us to the banquet. His desire is for us to join in the feast He has prepared for us. The King is lavishly generous in preparing this banquet for us.

Question 1: Have you accepted His invitation?

 There will be many guests at the banquet. God's heart is for as many as possible to be there. As many people as possible to get saved. It is an open invitation for any to accept.

Question 2: Who will you bring with you to the banquet?

What excuse is keeping you from the banquet? Professing faith without actioning it, does not mean we possess faith. Do not let the created things come before the Creator. We can lose sight of the Creator and fix our lives on what He has created. We can get too busy and forget to go to the table of Remembrance (The Banquet). Where we break bread and remember God's goodness in our lives. When we go to the banquet to be with our King, we remember what He has done, and how He has blessed us.

ACTION STEP

The King's invitation is for all. Our response determines our seat at the table. Our yes to the invitation needs to stay a yes. The yes is demonstrated in the way we live. The things we prioritise, like time with God.

We need to make sure we do away with excuses that keep us from the banquet. No excuse should keep us from pushing into the presence of our Lord.

There is still room at the table. Who will you bring with you to the banquet?