

Connection

What is one of the silliest excuses you have heard or even used recently to get out of something?

Content

The Parable of the Great Feast

God's banquet is for everyone.

Luke 14:15-24 says,

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.'"

The Banquet is ready

Our Savior is here and we are invited to join him at the banquet.

1. What does Isaiah 55:1-2 tell you about your relationship with Jesus?

Began Making Excuses

In this parable the guests made excuses on why they could not attend the master's banquet.

2. When in your life were you extended an invitation to come closer to Christ and perhaps you found yourself making excuses to pull away?

Go Quickly and Invite

Matthew 9:10-11 tells us of Jesus having dinner with "tax collectors and other disreputable sinners."

3. Why is it important for us to understand that God invites everyone to the banquet, and what does that say about what we are called to do?

Still Room for More

1 Timothy 2:3-6 makes it clear that there is always room for one more at God's table. Christ gave His very life for us to make that possible.

4. How can you be living your life today with this mentality in mind? What actions can you begin taking today to make "room for more"?

Commitment

Urge Anyone you Find.

Extending an invite allows us to play a part in helping bring someone to God. As Romans 10:13 says "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

5. All people who call on the name of the Lord are richly blessed. Take a moment to share about someone you would like prayer for as you wish to invite them to come to know the Lord.



Begin with prayer. Listen with care. Eat / Engage with another. Serve. Share your story.

This week, **serve** a person in your life who needs to hear and feel Jesus' love. Begin today with this tool of how to B.L.E.S.S them.