



Sermon Discussion Guide
4.12.26 Message | Tyler Myers | Luke 14:1-35

Note: This discussion guide is designed for both group and individual use. While some questions are written with group discussion in mind, individuals can still use this guide for personal reflection, journaling, and prayer. Simply adapt any group-oriented questions for your own study time.

LOOK BACK - Relationship & Accountability (~15% of your discussion)

→ **Share Life**

- What's something simple you're thankful for right now?
- What's been taking most of your attention lately?
- Is there anyone in your community who needs help right now, and how can our group come alongside them?

→ **Follow Up From Last Time**

- As you think back to last week, what stood out or stayed with you?
- Was there anything you felt invited to try, practice, or pay attention to this week? How did that go?
- Did that show up in any conversations, choices, or moments this week?
- Where did you see God at work - even in small ways?

LOOK UP - Scripture & Discovery (~60%)

→ **Read (twice, in different translations)**

- Read the text you are studying this week in the ESV out loud.
- Read the text you are studying this week a second time in an alternate version.

→ **Retell**

- In your own words, summarize what the author is saying in this passage.

Key Scripture (ESV)

One Sabbath, when he went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" And they could not reply to these things. Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, "When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just." When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, "Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!" But he said to him, "A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.'" Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple. "Salt is good,

but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

- Luke 14:1-35

MESSAGE HIGHLIGHTS

- Jesus models a kind of mercy that is not selective; it moves toward people regardless of status or personal benefit.
 - True hospitality is not about positioning ourselves for recognition but creating space for others to be seen, valued, and welcomed.
 - Humility shapes how we enter relationships, choosing to serve rather than elevate ourselves.
 - It is easy to build our lives around comfortable relationships, but Jesus challenges us to move toward those who cannot repay us.
 - Excuses and distractions can keep us from stepping into what God is inviting us to do.
 - The invitation of God is open and urgent; there is still room, and He calls His people to go and bring others in.
 - Mercy and hospitality are not optional for followers of Jesus; they are essential expressions of a transformed life.
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CONVERSATION STARTER

When you have people over or spend time with others, what usually makes that experience feel welcoming or meaningful?

DISCUSS THE MESSAGE (Does your group understand the message?)

- What did you like about this passage?
- Did you find anything difficult about this passage?
- What does this passage teach about God?
- What does this passage teach about people?

THINK DEEPER (Does your group understand the passage?)

- In **Luke 14:1–6**, Jesus heals a man while others are watching closely. What do you notice about how Jesus responds to the situation compared to the religious leaders?
- In **verses 7–11**, Jesus talks about choosing lower places instead of positions of honor. What do you think He is trying to teach about how we approach others?
- In **verses 12–14**, Jesus challenges people to invite those who cannot repay them. Why do you think that kind of hospitality is so different from what comes naturally?
- Looking at your own life, who are the people you tend to naturally spend time with? Who might be missing from your “list”?
- In **verses 15–20**, people begin to make excuses for not accepting the invitation. What are some common reasons people hesitate to step into what God is inviting them to do?
- In **verses 21–24**, the invitation expands to those who were not originally included. What does this show about the heart of God toward people?

- The passage shows both invitation and urgency. What might it look like to take one small step this week toward showing mercy or hospitality to someone outside your normal circle?
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BRIDGE QUESTION

Based on this passage, what kinds of responses does it invite? What direction does it point our lives toward?

LOOK FORWARD – Application & Mission (~25%)

→ Inside Me

- Where do I need to bring my sin into the light instead of hiding it?
- What is one concrete step of obedience I can take this week to pursue Jesus in that area?

→ Who Else?

- Who might need encouragement that grace is real and change is possible?
- How can I move toward them with love and truth this week?

→ Pray Together

- Pray for clarity to see Jesus more clearly and follow Him faithfully.
- Pray for strength to resist anything that competes for our allegiance and next steps.
- Pray for courage and grace to take the next faithful step that God is inviting us into.