Sermon Discussion Questions

Series: Hope Fulfilled **Date**: 11/8/2026

The Kingdom of God: Humility, Grace, and the Great Invitation

Luke 14:1-14

1. Humility Before God (Luke 14:7–11)
Jesus noticed how the guests chose the places of honor at the banquet and used the moment to teach about humility. Why is humility so important in the kingdom of God? What is the difference between genuine humility and simply appearing humble before others?

2. The Cost of Generosity (Luke 14:12–14)
Jesus challenged His host to invite those who could not repay him. How does this teaching challenge the way we typically think about hospitality, generosity, and relationships? What does it reveal about the kind of people God values?

3. The Excuses We Make (Luke 14:15–20)
In the parable of the great banquet, those who were invited began making excuses for why they could not attend. What do their excuses reveal about their priorities? What are some things that can compete with our devotion to Christ today?

4. God's Invitation of Grace (Luke 14:21–23)
When the invited guests refused to come, the master sent his servant to bring in the poor, crippled, blind, and lame. What does this reveal about God's heart toward those who recognize their need for Him? How does this picture of the kingdom challenge our attitudes toward people who might feel overlooked or unwelcome?

5. Responding to the Invitation (Luke 14:24)
Jesus concludes the parable with a serious warning about those who refuse the invitation. What is the difference between simply knowing about God's invitation and genuinely responding to it? Why is it dangerous to assume we can respond to Christ whenever we want?

Application
Jesus' teaching challenges us to examine our hearts, our priorities, and our willingness to respond to God's invitation. Is there anything in your life that has begun to take priority over your relationship with Christ? What is one practical way you can demonstrate humility, generosity, or a greater commitment to following Him this week?

Interpretation / Application Questions

Interpretation

1. What does this passage teach us about God? God is the main character of the Bible, so he should be our starting point. Every passage of Scripture reveals something about God, even if he's not specifically mentioned.

2. What does this passage teach us about people? As the pinnacle of God's creation, humans are at the center of his purposes. Think through what the passage reveals about our identity as divine image-bearers.

3. What does this passage teach us about how to relate to God? Loving God with our whole being expresses itself in a variety of ways. Start by looking for reasons to praise God.

4. What does this passage teach us about how to relate to others? God created us to be in community with one another. When he saves us from our sins, he makes us part of the body of Christ. Start by considering what the passage shows about interacting with others—family, friends, roommates, coworkers, classmates, neighbors, fellow believers, non-Christians, etc.

Application

1. What does God want us to understand/think? God has given us the mind of Christ, but we are still tempted to think the way we did before we knew Christ. Deep and lasting transformation begins with the renewal of our minds. Reflect on any wrong ways of thinking that the passage exposes.

2. What does God want us to believe? We may understand a truth at an intellectual level without letting it shape how we live. Consider what false beliefs the passage reveals and what gospel promises you need to believe.

3. What does God want us to desire? This question targets the affections—the combination of desires, inclinations, feelings, and will that are the spring of our actions. God calls us to desire him above all else, but apart from the work of the gospel we will desire what's evil. Reflect on how you see the sinful desires mentioned or implied in the passage show up in your own life, as well as the kind of godly desires you should be cultivating.

4. What does God want us to do? When God's Word changes how we think, what we functionally believe, and what we desire, it will produce tangible change in what we do and don't do. Sometimes a passage gives us direct commands. But many are far less straightforward, requiring us to think carefully about specific actions.