



These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.

**IN JESUS' DAY, THE TABLE WAS MORE THAN A PLACE TO NOURISH THE BODY. IT WAS A PLACE TO NURTURE RELATIONSHIPS AND NOURISH THE SOUL. THROUGHOUT THE GOSPEL OF LUKE, WE SEE JESUS EATING WITH ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE, USING THOSE MOMENTS TO CONNECT WITH THE UP AND COMERS AND THE DOWN AND OUT, THE OUTCASTS AND THE IN-CROWD. ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE AT THE TABLE WITH JESUS - EVEN A TRANSFORMED LIFE.**

**1** Have you sat at a big table full of great food? Whether fancy or informal, share a time from your life when you were at a great feast.

**2 Read Luke 14:1-15.** How does the discussion earlier in Jesus's meal with these religious leaders give us context for the story he's about to tell? What have we learned about these dinner guests?

**3 Read Luke 14:16-24.** What grabs your attention in this story? Before discussing the sermon's take on it, share what you notice or what questions come up for you when you hear Jesus's parable.

**4** The invited guests all make different excuses. Their excuses act as a warning for us: **don't let commitments to creation keep you from the presence of the creator.** What commitments or priorities in your life compete for the attention you might give to God?

**5** All the excuses stem from new, pressing issues, which acts as another warning: **don't let the tyranny of the urgent keep you from experiencing the eternal.** When you hear the phrase "impulsive desires" what comes to mind?

**6 Read Luke 14:21-23** again. This parable shows us **God's invitation is extravagantly inclusive and abundantly generous.** As God's invited guests, how do we experience his grace and generosity? As God's servants, how are we called to inclusivity and generosity?

