Luke 14:15-24

NIV

¹⁵ 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." ¹⁶ Jesus replied: "A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests. ¹⁷ At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.' ¹⁸ "But they all alike began to make excuses. The first

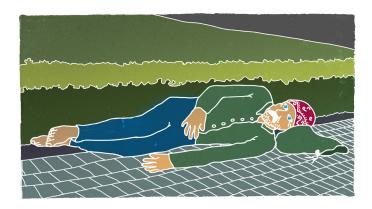


said, 'I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.'

19 "Another said, 'I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I'm on my way to try

them out. Please excuse me.' 20 "Still another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.' 21 "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.' ²² "'Sir,' the servant said, 'what you ordered has been done, but there is still room.' ²³ "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. ²⁴ I tell you, not one of those who were invited will get a taste of my banquet.'"



Discuss

- 1. How do you prepare to host a big party?
- 2. The servant is sent to call together the guests who already RSVP'd yes to the party. Why do you think they say yes and then say no? The oxen will be there tomorrow. How would you feel as the master of the party?
- 3. Why does the master send the servant out two more times to fill the banquet?
- 4. Some people are open to new ideas in theory, but they close off when it is time to act on it. The first invitees say that they want the banquet, but close off when it comes to follow through. The second round of guests were more open, and they experienced all the master had to offer. Why are the second and third round of people more open-minded?

Apply

- 1. Are you open to God meeting a real need in your life? What need would you like God to meet?
- 2. How can you be like the servant, and invite people to check out God? Write down a list of people you know on campus. Do listening prayer. Who will you focus on inviting this week?
- 3. How might you be like the master, and host a new community gathering. Do some listening prayer: what niche community or what friends might God send you to?



