



DEVOTION FOR THE WEEK

WHAT IS YOUR RSVP?

Luke 14: 15-24



In the Parable of the Great Banquet, a host prepared a banquet and sent out invitations to many guests. When the time for the banquet arrived, he sent his servant to inform the invited guests that it was ready. However, one by one, those who were invited began to make excuses. One person had bought a field and wanted to inspect it, another had purchased oxen and needed to test them, and another had recently married and couldn't attend. These excuses reflected their misplaced priorities and indifference to the invitation.

In response to the rejections, the master of the banquet ordered his servant to go out into the streets and lanes of the city, inviting the poor, crippled, blind, and lame. He instructed the servant to compel them to come in so that his house would be filled.

What can we learn from this parable?

The host of the feast represents God. His invitation to the banquet symbolises His generous call to salvation, expressing His desire for fellowship and a relationship with us. Everything has been prepared - God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, into this world. He lived, died for our sins and rose again. Everything was done, so you would come.

The guests who were first invited declined the invitation by giving reasons. They had other things to attend to and other priorities. Perhaps, they did not see the value of the banquet.

How about you? What is your RSVP to the feast?

You might think that you have already responded to God's invitation by accepting Him as your Lord and Saviour. Therefore, you may think this parable doesn't apply to you. However, consider this: How are you responding to Jesus daily? Do the choices you make daily reflect your acknowledgement that Jesus is your Saviour? Do they demonstrate your trust in God and your relationship with Him?

The invitation to feast at His table is not a one-time invitation, it is a daily invitation. It is an invite to worship Him, to enjoy His presence, to trust in His providence and protection.

Life gets in the way. Things get busy and times get tough. The excuses given in the parable were not inherently wrong; the issue was prioritising those things above the Kingdom. What might be keeping you away from the banquet?

If your best friend is getting married and invites you to their wedding, you would likely arrange your schedule to ensure you can attend. Similarly, if the President invited you for a meal, you would likely clear your schedule to make it happen.

Today, God extends His invitation for you to come feast at His table. What is your RSVP?

“Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!”

Reflection Questions

- 1. Thank God for His invitation. How does recognizing the richness of His grace and the blessings of His kingdom impact your attitude and perspective?*
- 2. Are there areas where you find yourself making excuses or hesitating to fully commit?*
- 3. Reflect on your priorities in life. Do they align with God's kingdom and His invitation, or are there worldly distractions that take precedence?*

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