

TALK IT OVER

You're Invited

BOTTOM LINE

God's mercy is extended to everyone everywhere, so go tell the world.

CONVERSATION STARTER

What is the most unusual or favorite invitation you have ever received?

THINGS TO CONSIDER

What did you hear?

What do you think?

What will you do?

RESOURCE

- The Daily:
newpointe.org/thedaily

VERSES AND QUOTES

"... a man sitting at the table with Jesus exclaimed, 'What a blessing it will be to attend a banquet in the Kingdom of God!'" Jesus replied with this story: "A man prepared a great feast and sent out many invitations. When the banquet was ready, he sent his servant to tell the guests, 'Come, the banquet is ready.' But they all began making excuses. One said, 'I have just bought a field and must inspect it.' Please excuse me.' Another said, 'I have just bought five pairs of oxen, and I want to try them out. Please excuse me.' Another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.' "The servant returned and told his master what they had said. His master was furious and said, 'Go quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and invite the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.' After the servant had done this, he reported, 'There is still room for more.' So his master said, 'Go out into the country lanes and behind the hedges and urge anyone you find to come, so that the house will be full. For none of those I first invited will get even the smallest taste of my banquet.'" Luke 14:15-24 NLT

You can enter God's Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way. But the gateway to life is very narrow and the road is difficult, and only a few ever find it. Matthew 7:13-14 NLT

"Jesus knows your story, your worst parts, and despite all of that, you are still invited ... The invitation you accept reveals where your heart is and what you value most." – Nate Alderfer

TALK IT OVER

What do you think the man who thought it would be a wonderful blessing to attend the banquet thought about Jesus' story? How would you describe what the invitation to the great feast means? What makes people today believe they are unqualified for a seat at the table? God's grace is extended to all people everywhere, and we are to "urge" people to join us at the table. Who is hardest for you to invite to the table? Why? An invitation means 1) someone wants you to come, 2) you get to decide your answer. We are invited to the table and called to invite others, but the choice is ours. There is a gap between believing in Jesus and following Him. The story tells us that possessions, careers/success, and relationships can keep us from accepting the invitation. They can also hinder us from extending the invitation. What does my response say about my priorities? When Jesus says, "Go – there's still room at the table," who comes to your mind you must invite?

ACTION STEP

I accept and then extend the invitation to the great feast every day of my life to everyone I can starting with _____