

Set Free to Follow Jesus
Luke 14:15-35

Luke 14:15 (ESV)

When one of those who reclined at table with Him heard these things, he said to Him, “Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!”

Luke 14:16 (ESV)

But He said to him, “A man once gave a great banquet and invited many.

Luke 14:17 (ESV)

And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’

1. The Invitation to Follow Jesus Extended

Luke 14:17 (ESV)

And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’

Isaiah 1:18 (ESV)

“Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord:
though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be as white as snow;
though they are red like crimson,
they shall become like wool.

Mark: 1:15 (ESV)

and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

2. The Invitation to Follow Jesus Excused

Luke 14:18 (ESV)

But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.’

Luke 14:19 (ESV)

And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.’

Luke 14:20 (ESV)

And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’

3. The Invitation to Follow Jesus Enlarged

Luke 14:21 (ESV)

So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame. '

Luke 14:22 (ESV)

And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room. '

Luke 14:23 (ESV)

And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled.

Luke 14:24 (ESV)

For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.' "

4. The Invitation to Follow Jesus Evaluated

Luke 14:25 (ESV)

Now great crowds accompanied Him, and He turned and said to them,

Luke 14:26 (ESV)

"If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple.

Luke 14:27 (ESV)

Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.

Luke 14:28 (ESV)

For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?

Luke 14:29 (ESV)

Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him,

Luke 14:30 (ESV)

saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish. '

Luke 14:31 (ESV)

Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand?

Luke 14:32 (ESV)

And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace.

Luke 14:33 (ESV)

So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be My disciple.

5. The Invitation to Follow Jesus Expired

Luke 14:34 (ESV)

“Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored?”

Luke 14:35 (ESV)

It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”