



A Worship Study Guide for Individuals, Groups and Families: For the week of October 28, 2018

Note to Discussion Leaders: Have members read the Bible passage in the group meeting. This is a “worship discussion” guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. Read through this guide before meeting with the group. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for the time of meeting together, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

Luke 14:15-24 *Filled*

This week, Steve Shelby preached on [Luke 14:15-24](#).

- The Context: One Sabbath ([Luke 14:1-6](#))
- “When he noticed how they chose the places of honor...” ([Luke 14:7](#))
- “He said also to the man who invited him, ‘When you give a dinner or banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return ...invite the poor, crippled, the lame, the blind and you will be blessed because they cannot repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection of the just’.” ([Luke 14:12-14](#))
- Man at his worst is religious man using his religion to protect himself from the inconvenience and disturbance of needy strangers.
- So the context for this parable is already awkward and antagonistic.
- So when one of the guests wants to change the subject...
- “All is ready...” (17)
- The excuses:
 - “I have bought a field” (18)
 - “I have bought some oxen” (19)
 - “I have married a wife” (20)
- Benefit of the doubt...
- “My identity does not begin when I begin to understand myself. There is something previous to what I think about myself, and it is what God thinks of me. That means that everything I think and feel is by nature a response, and the one to whom I respond is God. I never speak the first word. I never make the first move.” (Eugene Peterson)
- But really....
- Collusion and insults
- “So go and invite and compel (23; remember: invite those who cannot pay you back)
- Will you receive the invitation? (The Pharisees are rejecting the invitation; See the older brother in the parable of [Luke 15:25-32](#))
- Jesus is going to fill the tables

Going Deeper in God's Worship

Reflect on the text together. [Hear the sermon here.](#)

- 1.) What is true about God's character, promises or work?
- 2.) What does the Scripture teach you about yourself or others?
- 3.) Are you encouraged to follow Jesus in His mission? How?

Reflect on the whole of Sunday's liturgy together. Locate this week's [Order of Worship here.](#)

- 1.) Was there an element of the worship service that you would like to share with the group?
 - *A Scripture verse that was read?*
 - *A prayer that was prayed?*
 - *A song that was sung?*
 - *A sacrament that was administered?*
 - *A way that glory was given to God?*
 - *A way that someone encouraged you?*
- 2.) Did the Holy Spirit convict, change, or encourage you in any way you wish to share with the group?
- 3.) Is Jesus leading you or the group to take a specific risk to minister the Good News to Richmond? Your neighbors? Your co-workers? Your family and friends?

Going Further in Christ's Mission

- 1.) Have the Scripture text open in front of you as a guide to your prayers.
 - Spend time thanking God and giving Him glory.
- 2.) Ask the Lord for vision, strength and faith as followers of Jesus Christ.
 - Count on the work of the Holy Spirit for change.
 - Ask for God's forgiveness and grace to repent of sin and trust Jesus.
 - Pray for the world, our country, Richmond, and the Church.
 - Pray for members of your group, family members, or co-workers, neighbors and friends.

Questions about this week's study guide? Contact Kevin Greene, kevin@wepc.org
To hear sermons and access past study guides visit www.wepc.org/archivedsermons