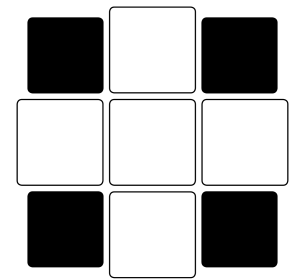


Parable of the Wedding Feast

Scripture: **Luke 14:7–11**

Series: **The Gospel of Luke**

Sunday, March 31, 2019



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Overview

When Jesus told this parable, he was advising them regarding the places of honor (the prominent seats where attendees were highly visible and in close proximity to the host or the other distinguished guests). For those who would jockey for position—looking for the seat of honor—Jesus conveyed a radically different approach: one of humility. Thus, when Jesus advised them to “go and sit in the lowest place,” he wasn’t giving them worldly advice or instructing them on proper dinner etiquette; He was calling on them to demonstrate humility and to put the needs of others before their own, seeking the posture of a servant rather than those who seek to be honored and served. Jesus warned in His parable, “For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” This is because—as James 4:6 states—**God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.**

Corroborating Texts

James 4:6; Psalm 18:27; Psalm 138:6; Proverbs 29:23; 1 Corinthians 15:9-10; 1 Timothy 1:15; Psalm 113:4-9; Matthew 11:28-30; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 22:34-40; Matthew 28:16-20

Discussion Questions

1. Can you recall a time when, due to your own lack of humility, you were humiliated in a public setting? If so, what were the circumstances? What did you learn from that experience?
2. Prior to this week’s sermon, how did you typically define humility? Was your definition adequate? Why or why not? Per Pastor Joe’s definition: **humility is to perceive and embrace our lowliness and find freedom from self-exaltation and self-infatuation.** In what ways have you found freedom from self-exaltation, self-infatuation, or both?
3. This may be difficult to admit to others, but do you sometimes seek to draw attention to yourself, either by wanting to be recognized or wanting to be heard? Do you sometimes seek to push your opinion on others while not showing interest in hearing their opinion? If so, why?
4. In a culture that doesn’t typically embrace or demonstrate humility, how can we—as followers of Christ—maintain humility? [by seeing our smallness and God’s greatness, by seeing our need and God’s grace in the gospel, and by seeing others’ value and our calling] What is our calling? [The Great Commandment (Matt. 22:34-40) and the Great Commission (Matt. 28:16-20)]
5. What has God been teaching you lately about humility? Are you getting closer to Jesus in your experience? In what ways can you make more of God and less of yourself?