



Week Six: The Ultimate Party Planner – Study Guide

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The beginning of Luke 14 covers the details of an eventful Saturday dinner. Jesus discussed details of an established debate in first century Judaism, gave wise advice to fellow dinner guests, and then rebuked the dinner host for the way he did his guest lists.

Where Am I Today?

- 1) We all have a tendency to give ourselves a “seat of honor” by bragging on our accomplishments and minimizing our failures. How do you tend to give yourself a “seat of honor”? Have you ever been humbled by it?

Into the Bible

- 2) Jesus loved to challenge the religious status quo. In **Luke 14:1-6** Jesus did His third Sabbath healing that Luke recorded. Why did no one answer Jesus’ question in verse 3? On what basis did He justify the healing?

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- 3) In **Luke 14:12-15** Jesus stepped it up. This time He called out the man who invited Him for dinner. What about the guest list did He indirectly criticize? What is Jesus teaching about the “you scratch my back and I’ll scratch yours” mentality?

- 4) In **Luke 14:16-24** Jesus turns the same conversation into a parable of a great banquet. What do the excuses of the invited guests show about their priorities? What greater reality is Jesus teaching with the parable?

How Does This Apply?

- 5) No one is immune to Jesus’ rebuke. Since He’s God and we’re fallen human beings, either of these parables could be convicting. Which one are you more likely to be guilty of and how? Taking the seat of honor? Or, doing a favor only for the purpose of having one returned?

- 6) What kind of favors are you prone to give in hopes of having one returned? Who should you invite to dinner (literally or figuratively) that you ordinarily would never want to invite?



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Take Action

What's your part in Go Bananas? It's not too late to find your spot. Lunches are especially needed on Thursdays and Fridays. Neighborhood Lunch Sites, Collection Teams and Cookout Teams still have opportunities to join in. Don't miss out on being a part! Find more details at www.covechurch.org/gobananas.

Continue Learning on Your Own

- 7) Jesus got into discussions and controversies regarding the Sabbath frequently. The keeping of the Sabbath is the only one of the 10 commandments that Jesus did not explicitly affirm continuation of, although He never broke it either. How did Jesus show people that they misunderstood the Sabbath? We don't tend to be as legalistic about the Sabbath as first century Jewish society, but what are we legalistic about?