

PART 1

"Dinner Party Politics"

Luke 14:1-14

- The GOSPEL is the good news that Jesus has defeated sin, death, and evil through His own death and resurrection and is making all things new, even us.
- HOSPITALITY is the act of receiving guests and entertaining strangers.

• GOSPEL HOSPITALITY is costly, self-giving love that elevates another person and allows them to be welcomed in as God's honored guest.

Luke 14:1-6

1 One Sabbath, when Jesus went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. 2 And look, there was a man before him who had dropsy. 3 And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" 4 But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. 5 And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" 6 And they could not reply to these things.

Gospel hospitality is the answer to the problems of loneliness and alienation in our society.

Luke 14:7-9

7 Now Jesus told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, 8 "When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, 9 and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place.

Luke 14:10-11

10 But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. 11 For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Luke 14:12-14

12 He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. 13 But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, 14 and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just." The dinner parties and get-togethers of the people of God are intended to demonstrate to a watching world who God is, what He is up to, and what His future will be like.

Jesus invites us to be His peculiar people, peculiar specifically (as it was before) in how we eat.