

Discovery Community Church – Small Group Discussion Guide

Traction – 4/7/24

Luke 14:15-24

INTRODUCTION

- Of all the invitations you've received in your life, which meant the most to you and why?

DISCUSSION

Have a volunteer read Luke 14:15-24

- What does the “great banquet” Jesus described represent? Who do the various characters in the parable represent?
- How is Jesus' parable related to the statement the guest made in verse 15?
- If you don't want to do something, what excuse are you most likely to use? Who or what most often gets the blame; kids, schedule, work? Do you feel your excuses are usually valid?
- The invited guests in this parable used work, money, and family matters as excuses to avoid going to the feast. Why is it easy for us to place higher priority on these things than on our relationship with God? What is the consequence of that misplaced priority, in your experience?
- What issues of lesser importance most often distract you from focusing on God's kingdom and daily living for Him?
- How did the host respond to the guests' excuses? What do the host's attitude and actions reveal about God's kingdom? What do you think it means that the host widened his invitation after his invited guests declined?
- From your experience, what are some common excuses people make to avoid making a decision about pursuing a relationship with God? What can we say or do to help people overcome their hesitations?
- What opportunities do we have to widen the invitation to the banquet? Do you find it hard or easy to follow the instructions given in verse 21, to go out “into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame... Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full.” What would it look like today to do this?
- How should the truth of this parable impact your mission as a child of God? How should it impact the mission of our group and our church?

APPLICATION

- What, or who, is God putting on your heart to focus on this week?
- How can your group be praying for you?