

THERE'S PLENTY OF GOOD ROOM

SERMON GUIDE

No Limits with Pastor Delman

There's Plenty of Good Room

John 10:16

INTRODUCTION

God is preparing a feast, and whether we like it or not, God reserves the right as the host, and convener, and furthermore, as the one who has paid the price to invite whoever He desires to sit down at His table. None of us has a say in who God invites to His table. In fact, when we get to heaven, many of us will be surprised by who we see there. There will be some we thought would make it who won't be there, and others we didn't think would who'll be sitting right there. And that's because God and God alone can invite whomever He chooses to have access to the Kingdom. John 3:16 reminds us that an eternal life spent with Jesus is available to WHOSOEVER believes in Him. May we never forget that.

KEY POINTS

1. We do not have a monopoly on God.

All too often, many Christians arrogantly assume that they have cornered the market on God and spiritual truth. They think God belongs to them and no one else. In their minds, they think they are God's favorite children; that somehow salvation, truth, God's love, God's peace, God's protection, God's Spirit, and God's direction are just for them. Jesus foresaw this potential and wanted to head it off by letting his followers know that He's got other sheep, and they are included in God's plan. He made it clear that, at the Lord's table, there will be sheep from another fold who have been invited to that table, and that there will be perfect unity among us all when we get to heaven.

2. We must stop talking so loud.

In today's key text, Jesus says to His disciples, I've got other sheep, and they need to hear my voice as well. Here's the problem Jesus is addressing. These other sheep who need to hear His voice are struggling to do so because some sheep are talking too loudly; they dominate every conversation. NOTES

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Have you ever been to a restaurant and been unable to hear those you're having dinner with because those at the next table are talking too loudly? That's what Jesus is saying about the spiritual marketplace; that those outside of this flock who need to hear His voice can't because Christians won't let others get to the mic. I heard an adage that says, "You can't listen with your mouth open." Every now and then, we all need to listen a little more and talk a little less.

3. Let God handle the guest list.

The text says something subtle that I think is quite significant. After declaring that He has other sheep that are not of this fold, Jesus then says, "I must bring them also." This is interesting because the responsibility of including these other sheep is not on the sheep to whom He is speaking. He doesn't tell His followers to go and convert these other sheep, to proselytize them, or to win them over. Ultimately, there's one flock and one Shepherd, and so God says in essence, let me handle who gets included. Stop trying to dictate and control who gets in and let Him handle the guest list.

NOTES	

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- 1. Have you ever struggled with believing you have a monopoly on God? How so?
- 2. When was a time you talked more than you listened? What can you learn from that situation?
- 3. Who is someone you know who's lost that you can pray for that they would come into a personal relationship with Jesus?