

# Reedy Fork Baptist Church

## Wednesday March 6, 2024

### BIBLE STUDY Theme: “Stop Your Excuses”

#### SCRIPTURE – Luke 14:16-24 (NIV)

<sup>16</sup> Jesus replied: “A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests.

<sup>17</sup> At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’

<sup>18</sup> “But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said, ‘I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.’

<sup>19</sup> “Another said, ‘I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I’m on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.’

<sup>20</sup> “Still another said, ‘I just got married, so I can’t come.’

<sup>21</sup> “The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, ‘Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.’

<sup>22</sup> “‘Sir,’ the servant said, ‘what you ordered has been done, but there is still room.’

<sup>23</sup> “Then the master told his servant, ‘Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full.

<sup>24</sup> I tell you, not one of those who were invited will get a taste of my banquet.’”

#### I. Key Words:

- Excuses
- Banquet
- Helplessness
- Opportunity
- Command
- Compassion

## II. People, Places & Times:

- Householder
- Servant
- Invited Guest

## III. Background:

The basic message of the Parable of the Great Banquet could be stated this way: "The tragedy of the Jewish rejection of Christ has opened the door of salvation to the Gentiles. The blessings of the kingdom are available to all who will come to Christ by faith."

The inclusion of the Gentiles is a fulfillment of Hosea 2:23, "I will say to those called 'Not my people,' 'You are my people'; and they will say, 'You are my God.'" God is "not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9), and "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Romans 10:13).

## IV. Make it happen:

1. What are the three excuses in Luke 14:16-24 NIV?

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2. Were these good excuses?

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3. What do our excuses reveal?

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4. When the servant told the master that the invited guests were not going to come what was the master's response?

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5. When individuals refuse to accept God's invitation what is the result?

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6. If an individual accepts God's invitation to his banquet, what must we do (v.23)?

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7. What is Jesus saying to us in verse 21c&d?

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**V. Follow the Spirit:**

What will you do as a result of this lesson?

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