

Day 1: The Backwards Kingdom

Reading: Luke 14:12-14

Devotional: Jesus did not come to affirm the social structures we have carefully constructed around ourselves. He came to dismantle them. When he told his host to stop inviting people who could repay him, he was exposing a deeply human tendency to measure relationships by what they return to us. The kingdom of God does not operate on transaction. It operates on grace. Consider today where your generosity ends and your self-interest begins. Ask God to reveal the places where you love conditionally, and invite him to replace that with something that looks more like his own heart toward you.

Day 2: The Invitation Already Extended

Reading: Luke 14:15-17

Devotional: The banquet was ready. Everything had been prepared. The host had done everything necessary to receive his guests, and all that remained was for them to come. This is the picture of the gospel. God has done the work. The table has been set through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Nothing is missing. Nothing is lacking. The invitation has gone out. The question is not whether God is ready to receive people. The question is whether we are willing to carry that invitation to the people around us. The gospel is not a future promise waiting to be fulfilled. It is a present reality waiting to be shared.

Day 3: The Excuses We Make

Reading: Luke 14:18-20

Devotional: None of the excuses in the parable were inherently sinful. Land, livestock, and marriage are not wicked things. But each one reveals a heart that had allowed something good to become more important than the kingdom. This is rarely how we fall away from God. It is almost never dramatic. It is gradual. It is the slow accumulation of good things that quietly crowd out the best thing. Examine your life today not for obvious sin, but for the subtle replacements. What good thing has quietly moved into the space that belongs to Jesus? Name it honestly before God and ask him to reorder your priorities.

Day 4: The Least of These

Reading: Luke 14:21-23

Devotional: When the invited guests refused to come, the master did not cancel the banquet. He expanded the invitation. He sent his servant into the streets, the lanes, the highways, and the hedges to find those whom polite society had overlooked. This is the heart of God on full display. He is not diminished by rejection. He is not deterred by indifference. He simply turns his gaze toward those who have

been told they do not belong and says, come in, there is room. You were once among those people. Someone carried the invitation to you. Who in your life is waiting for someone to do the same for them?

Day 5: Outward Focused, Kingdom Centered

Reading: Luke 19:1-10

Devotional: Zacchaeus was not waiting to be found. He was simply curious. But Jesus saw him, called him by name, and moved toward him without hesitation. This is the model for every believer. The kingdom grows not through institutional programs but through personal pursuit, through one person choosing to see another person the way Jesus sees them. You do not need a platform or a title. You need a willing heart and eyes that are trained to look outward. The sermon reminds us that salvation is not in our hands, but the invitation is. Go today with the confidence that Jesus will take care of the rest.