SERMON SERIES: For EveryONE SPEAKER: Scott Beckenhauer DATE: December 3, 2023

Sermon Title:

"This Is For EveryONE"

Introduction

As we wrap up our For EveryONE series, we spend our last week looking at who is welcome into the kingdom of God. We learn from examining the parables of Jesus who God holds in His heart and who He wants in His house. The good news is: God's heart and God's home are for everyONE.

• Share a fun Christmas tradition or memory you had growing up. What traditions have you started or hope to start in your house now?

Seek the Word

- Read Luke 14:15-20. The master of the banquet invited many guests who chose other things instead of the feast. What do you think the excuses given by the invited guests reveal about their priorities, and how might this relate to our responses to God's invitations in our lives?
- Read Luke 14:21-24. After inviting those on the streets and alleys, the master desires the banquet hall to be full. How does this part of the parable emphasize God's desire for His house to be filled with people from all walks of life, and what implications does it have for our understanding of salvation?

Go Deeper

Read Luke 14:1-14. In this passage Jesus tells two other parables about banquets and the people of God's kingdom. How do these parables compare to the one Jesus tells just a few verses down? How are they different? How do they shed light on one another for a fuller picture of the Kingdom of God?

Talk About It

- How can we identify and overcome personal excuses that might hinder us from fully responding to God's invitation to be part of His Kingdom?
- Reflect on a time when you may have felt excluded or unwelcome. How does the parable encourage us to embrace those who might feel like outsiders in our communities or churches?
- Consider the concept of the "plank in your own eye" (Matthew 7:3-5). What personal judgments do you need to confront and surrender to Jesus to better reflect God's love for everyone, especially those who may seem different or less privileged?

Wrap Up

Reminder: God's heart and God's home are for every ONE.

Challenge: Spend time each day this week praying over those who have yet to accept the invitation of Jesus. Take some time to reflect over your one life, and invite them to take the next step in their faith journey, whatever that may look like.