



## GOING DEEPER AT HOME

### SEPTEMBER 12: THE TABLE IS SET

There is something about being invited to sit at a table and eat with people, especially if the invitation was unexpected, we might feel like we are part of something bigger. This week we kick off a teaching series where we see how the church & the Kingdom of God are like sitting at a table for a meal. Jesus uses a parable (story) to illustrate that all of us are invited to sit at His table, especially those of us who feel like outsiders.

#### SCRIPTURE:

Luke 14:15 - 24

#### GOING DEEPER QUESTIONS:

1. Think of a time you were invited to sit at a table to eat with people outside your regular sphere of friends. Why were you invited & how did the experience make you feel? Or think of a time you invited someone new to sit at your table. What was that experience like?
2. What is something from the message that stood out to you, was new to you or challenged you?
3. Respond to the statement "All of us are invited by Jesus to sit at His table." Is this true? Why or why not?
4. Read Luke 14:1 - 14. The back story to the parable of the banquet is Jesus blowing the doors open on the religious system's belief that not everyone will be in the Kingdom of God. Why do you think the religious leaders assumed that not everyone will be welcome in the Kingdom of God? When & why have you been tempted to keep the guest list of invitees shorter?
5. When have you come up with a "lame excuse" to Jesus' invitation to join Him? What excuse did you give?
6. In the parable the "outsiders" that are invited to the banquet are the poor, the crippled, the blind & the lame because it was believed they had sinned. Who are the outsiders in our context today? Who can you invite to your table, whether literally or figuratively, to communicate that God loves them?
7. How is the the Holy Spirit inviting you to respond? What step(s) of obedience can you start taking today?