

GOD'S VISION BANQUET

Luke 14:15-24 ¹⁵... a man sitting at the table with Jesus exclaimed, "What a blessing it will be to attend a banquet in the Kingdom of God!" ¹⁶Jesus replied with this story: "A man prepared a great feast and sent out many invitations. ¹⁷When the banquet was ready, he sent his servant to tell the guests, 'Come, the banquet is ready.' ¹⁸But they all began making excuses. One said, 'I have just bought a field and must inspect it. Please excuse me.' ¹⁹Another said, 'I have just bought five pairs of oxen, and I want to try them out. Please excuse me.' ²⁰Another said, 'I now have a wife, so I can't come.' ²¹"The servant returned and told his master what they had said. His master was furious and said, 'Go quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and invite the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.' ²²After the servant had done this, he reported, 'There is still room for more.' ²³So his master said, 'Go out into the country lanes and behind the hedges and urge anyone you find to come, so that the house will be full. ²⁴For none of those I first invited will get even the smallest taste of my banquet.'" (NLT)

Isaiah 25:6-9 ⁶ In Jerusalem, the Lord of Heaven's Armies will spread a wonderful feast for all the people of the world. It will be a delicious banquet with clear, well-aged wine and choice meat. ⁷ There He will remove the cloud of gloom, the shadow of death that hangs over the earth. ⁸ He will swallow up death forever! The Sovereign Lord will wipe away all tears. He will remove forever all insults and mockery against His land and people. The Lord has spoken! ⁹ In that day the people will proclaim, "This is our God! We trusted in Him, and He saved us! This is the Lord, in whom we trusted. Let us rejoice in the salvation He brings!" (NLT)

1. God's banquet is His KINGDOM BLESSINGS.

What is served at this banquet:

- the forgiveness of sins
- A pardon from being condemned
- a personal relationship with the Creator God
- the presence of God's Holy Spirit in our lives

- the hope of eternal life
- Power for living
- Purpose, Value, Meaning
- Wisdom, guidance (the Bible)
- Healing from my hurts, hang ups and habits
- Knowledge of why the world is the way that it is.
- Freedom from my fears, failures and frustrations.
- No more shame
- A fresh start
- A purpose for living
- A mission to carry out
- A people to live with
- Value found in Christ instead of who I am or what I do or own.
- We don't have to do life alone. We have Jesus as our teacher and the Holy Spirit as our guide, and God as our advisor.

2. Many will IGNORE God's invitation.

Luke 14:17-21a ¹⁷ When the banquet was ready, he sent his servant to tell the guests, 'Come, the banquet is ready.' ¹⁸ But they all began making excuses. One said, 'I have just bought a field and must inspect it. Please excuse me.' ¹⁹ Another said, 'I have just bought five pairs of oxen, and I want to try them out. Please excuse me.' ²⁰ Another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.' ²¹ The servant returned and told his master what they had said. His master was furious ..." (NLT)

3. Focus on those who are MOST OPEN to God.

Luke 14:21 "The servant returned and told his master what they had said. His master was furious and said, 'Go quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and invite the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.'" (NLT)

4. Make the invitation as WIDE as possible.

Luke 14:22-23 ²²After the servant had done this, he reported, 'There is still room for more.' ²³So his master said, 'Go out into the

country lanes and behind the hedges and urge anyone you find to come ...” (NLT)

5. God wants a FULL HOUSE.

Luke 14:23 “So his master said, ‘Go out into the country lanes and behind the hedges and urge anyone you find to come, **so that the house will be full.**” (NLT)

6. God will BLESS those who welcome His honored guests.

Luke 14:12-14 “¹² Then He turned to his host, “When you put on a luncheon or a banquet,’ He said, “don’t invite your friends, brothers, relatives, and rich neighbors. For they will invite you back, and that will be your only reward. ¹³ Instead, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ **Then** at the resurrection of the righteous, God will **reward** you for inviting those who could not repay you.” (NLT)

HOW TO PROVIDE GOD’S KINGDOM BUFFET 2023 Strategy

1. PRAY

1 Timothy 2:1-3 “¹ **I urge you, first of all, to pray** for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. ² Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. ³ This is good and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth.” (NLT)

- **PASTORS**
- **REQUESTS**
- **ANYONE** who needs Jesus
- **YIELD** to God’s plan, purpose and power.

2. BLESS

Genesis 12:1-3 ¹ The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people, and your father's household to the land I will show you. ² I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all people on earth will be blessed through you." (NIV)

Galatians 3:29 "If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." (NIV)

- **BEGIN** with prayer
- **LISTEN**
- **EAT**
- **SERVE**
- **STORY**

3. WOW

1 Corinthians 14:24-25 ²⁴... if some unbelieving outsiders walk in on a service where people are speaking out God's truth, the plain words will bring them up against the truth ²⁵ and probe their hearts. Before you know it, they're going to be on their faces before God, recognizing that God is among you." (Mes)

- **WARM** welcome!
- **ORGANIZED** spiritual pathway.
- **WORSHIP** that is passionate and purposeful.

4. CONNECT

Hebrews 10:23-25 ²³ Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep His promises. ²⁴ Let us think of ways to motivate one another in acts of love and good works. ²⁵ And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of His return is drawing near." (NLT)

- **COMMUNITY**
- **OUTREACH**
- **NEEDS**
- **NEW GUEST**
- **EDIFY** each other through God's Word.
- **CAUSE** to serve.
- **TENACIOUS** prayer.

BOTTOM LINE

Hebrews 12:15 "See to it that no one misses the grace of God ..."
(NIV)

Revelation 3:20-21 ²⁰ Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends. ²¹ Those who are victorious will sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat with my Father on His throne." (NLT)