

Proximity Principle, October 29, 2023

Ice Breaker:

Share a personal story about a time when you unexpectedly crossed paths with someone who deeply impacted your life. How did that encounter change your perspective or journey, and what lessons did you learn from it?

Discussion Questions:

1. Read Luke 14:12-14 • In this week's study, we learned about the Proximity Principle and the importance of being present for people. Reflect on a time when you felt like you were on the outside and someone invited you in and how that impacted you? How do you notice those on the outside and invite them in?
2. Read Luke 14:18-20 • The Great Banquet parable highlights the excuses people made for not attending the feast. What are some common excuses people make today for not engaging in community or faith-related activities? How can we address or overcome these excuses in our lives and in our church community?
3. Read Luke 14:13-14 • Jesus emphasized the need to invite the marginalized and overlooked to the banquet. Who are the marginalized or overlooked people in your community that could benefit from an invitation to experience God's love and community? How can you and your group reach out to them?
4. In our days of social media, ***we have tons of friends who show up in our feeds, but few who show up in our lives.*** What are some ways Christians can help combat the loneliness epidemic we see in our culture? In what ways is the one at a time mentality the antidote for our times?

Key Takeaway or Action Item:

Take a moment to identify one person you can invite to your church, a church event, or a community gathering. It could be a friend, neighbor, coworker, or someone you feel God is prompting you to reach out to. Write down their name and commit to extending an invitation this week and through Christmas.