

Around *the* Table

PART ONE



¹ One Sabbath day Jesus went to eat dinner in the home of a leader of the Pharisees, and the people were watching him closely.

LUKE 14:1 NLT

¹⁵ Hearing this, a man sitting at the table with Jesus exclaimed, “What a blessing it will be to attend a banquet in the Kingdom of God!”

LUKE 14:15-23 NLT

¹⁶ Jesus replied with this story: “A man prepared a great feast and sent out many invitations. 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

LUKE 14:15-23 NLT

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.’

LUKE 14:15-23 NLT

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.’ 22 After the servant had done this,

LUKE 14:15-23 NLT

he reported, 'There is still room for more.' 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.'

LUKE 14:15-23 NLT

The table is set.



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.’”

LUKE 14:16-17 NLT

⁶ When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. ⁷ Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. ⁸ But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.

ROMANS 5:6-8 NLT

The excuses begin.



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.'

LUKE 14:18-20 NLT

The image features a close-up of a wooden surface with a prominent, wavy grain pattern in shades of brown and tan. On the left side, a portion of a red and white checkered cloth is visible, draped over the edge of the wood. The text "A deeper look at the excuses:" is centered horizontally across the middle of the image, rendered in a white, serif font with a subtle drop shadow for readability against the wood grain.

A deeper look at the excuses:

A deeper look at the excuses:

- ❖ The person that bought the field uses the excuse of the preoccupation of material things.

A deeper look at the excuses:

- ❖ The person that bought the oxen uses the excuse of the preoccupation of new experiences.



A deeper look at the excuses:

- ❖ The person that just got married uses the excuse of the preoccupation of good things.

²² They would not be guilty if I had not come and spoken to them. But now they have no excuse for their sin.

JOHN 15:22 NLT

The master's
desire.



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

LUKE 14:21-23 NLT

lame.’²² After the servant had done this, he reported, ‘There is still room for more.’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.’”

LUKE 14:21-23 NLT

⁹ The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

2 PETER 3:9 NIV

One of the great
things about God's
table is there is always
room for more!



The image features a close-up of a wooden surface with a prominent, wavy grain pattern in shades of brown and tan. On the left side, a portion of a red and white checkered cloth is visible, draped over the edge. The text is centered on the wooden surface.

**How can we apply and
understand this parable?**



How can we apply and understand this parable?

- ❖ All of us have been invited to an amazing table that has been **prepared** for us.



How can we apply and understand this parable?

- ❖ It is very easy to become preoccupied and miss out on the feast.



How can we apply and understand this parable?

- ❖ God has a place at the table for all of us.



How can we apply and understand this parable?

- ❖ At this feast it isn't important where you sit or what is on the table. The most important thing is who is at the table.