

Luke

Carefully Investigating the Gospel ... Together

SSBC Luke Bible Study #54

Take this Bible Study home and use it to guide your exploration of the scripture passage that next Sunday's sermon will be focused on.

Passage: Luke 14:15-24

Sermon Date: Oct 1, 2006

“Come for Supper!”

The battle goes on night after night. “Supper’s almost ready.” Responses are minimal. Did anyone hear? Minutes later, “Come for supper.” A few stirrings, but still no footsteps heading toward the kitchen. Finally, a quick tour of the house to extend a personal “invitation” to each member of the family to drop what they’re doing and come eat. Good food awaits. Even a pleasant conversation. Why do they (we) resist the invitation?

In this week’s study passage, we’re reminded that Jesus has called us to supper with him. Indeed, to the most amazing feast one could ask for or imagine. How will we respond? How will you respond?

Here I am. I stand at the door and knock.
If anyone hears my voice and opens the door,
I will come in and dine with him, and he with me.
(Revelation 3:20)

Jesus stands knocking just outside your door, with an invitation to an everlasting feast. As you start this study, ask Him to help you see this feast – that it is real, and to help you discover how to respond accordingly, both in your heart and in your actions.

These studies are produced by South Shore Baptist Church in conjunction with our weekly sermon series. Studies are distributed one week prior to the sermon as inserts in the church bulletin and posting at www.southshorebaptist.com/sermons/. Sermons are also recorded and can be listened to later by visiting that same website. Have feedback or questions? Contact studieditor@southshorebaptist.com

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Bible Study:

1. Read this week's Bible passage and use the chart below to note your observations and any questions you have.

Scripture	Your Observations & Questions
<p>LAST WEEK'S TEXT</p> <p>¹² Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴ and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."</p> <p>THIS WEEK'S TEXT</p> <p>¹⁵ When one of those at the table with him heard this, he said to Jesus, "Blessed is the man who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God."</p> <p>¹⁶ Jesus replied: "A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests. ¹⁷ At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.'</p> <p>¹⁸ "But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said, 'I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.'</p> <p>¹⁹ "Another said, 'I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I'm on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.'</p>	

Scripture	Your Observations & Questions
<p>²⁰ "Still another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.'</p> <p>²¹ "The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.'</p> <p>²² "'Sir,' the servant said, 'what you ordered has been done, but there is still room.'</p> <p>²³ "Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and make them come in, so that my house will be full. ²⁴ I tell you, not one of those men who were invited will get a taste of my banquet.'"</p>	

2. How is God's kingdom like a banquet? What do we know about this feast? (Consider Isa 25:6-8, Luke 13:28-30, 14:15-24, Rev 19:6-9)

3. Who might the invited guests, the poor & crippled, and those on the country lanes represent? (Consider Acts 13:44-48, 28:23-28)

4. Next, use this chart to **interpret some key observations**.

a. Select a few of your observations & questions from pages 2-3 that you find most interesting or important. Rewrite these below, and interpret and apply them using the columns to the right.

b. For each observation, begin to interpret by asking yourself these kinds of questions:

- What does it mean?
- Why is this important?
- What does this tell me about the Father? Jesus? The Holy Spirit?
- Are there other scriptures that could help me understand this?

Observation What does it say?	Interpretation What does it mean?

5. Now consider how you can **apply** the Word to your life. Look for:

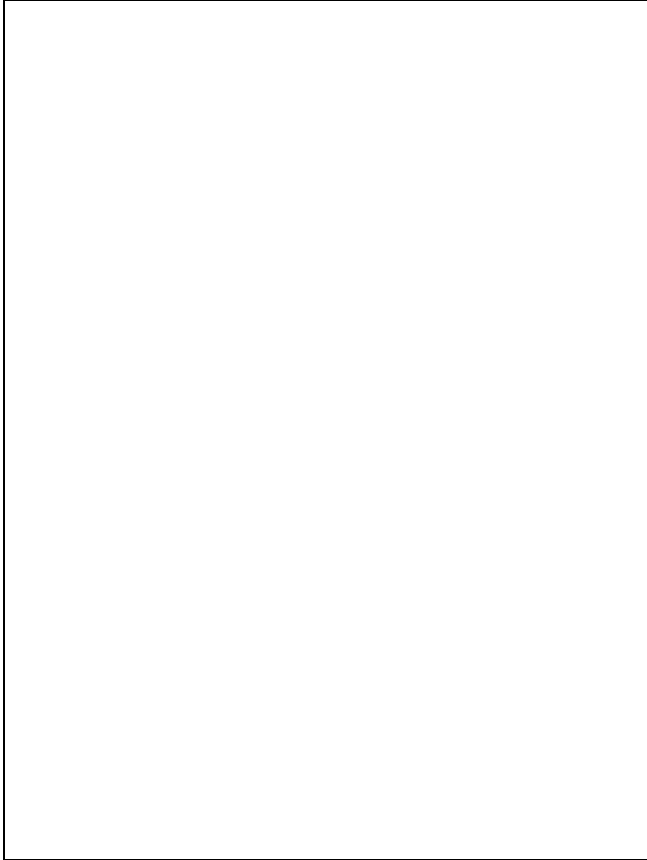
- **S**ins to avoid
- **P**romises to believe
- **E**xamples to follow (remember "SPECK")
- **C**ommands to obey
- **K**nowledge to share

Don't just write things to write them – listen carefully to God's Word and what he seems to be teaching you, and look for relevant things that you're truly stirred to do. Then as you do them, God will help you learn, grow, and help others grow.

Application How do I apply what it means?

Creative Challenge:

10. Use the space below to write out an invitation to God's banquet.
Try adding some of the biblical details about the banquet.
(timing, location, attire, distinguished guests, what to expect, ...)

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for writing an invitation to God's banquet. The box is oriented vertically and occupies the central portion of the page.

Ask God to show you how you might creatively and lovingly communicate his invitation to those you know who have not yet responded to his invitation to eternal life in His kingdom. Also ask Him to help you remember that you, too, are invited and need to be ready; sure of your salvation and yet working out that salvation day by day with your eyes & heart looking toward Christ and His kingdom.