

First Southern Baptist Church - February 16, 2022
Exalted/ Abased/ Wisdom - Lk 14:7-14

Introduction

1. Two admonitions
 - take the lower seat
 - invite the poor to your feasts
2. The context... he puts forth a “parable” to those who were bidden
 - “parable” - a wide definition of a parable
 - “bidden” - reminds us where Jesus is (at the house of a Pharisee - verse 1)
2. Both are about
 - humility
 - the scramble for places -self, importance, ego (self-confidence)
 - manners
 - as you interface with others

I. Take the Lower Seat (7-11) - the Negative Command

1. Jesus noticed how they sat at a wedding feast (verse 7)
 - even religious folk often have a problem with being “honored” - the scramble for “places” (status)
2. Places of honor
 - honored guests
 - the “best seats”
3. Take the lower seat
 - for practical reasons
 - for ethical reasons (modesty)
4. True honor - from true humility
 - Is a gift, you can’t “take” it
5. Is this about table manners?

II. When You Make A Supper (12-14) - the Positive Command

1. Invite not the rich - invite the poor

<u>First list</u> (typical list) Friends Brothers Relatives Rich neighbors	<u>Second list</u> (Jesus’ list) Poor Maimed Lame Blind
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2. The motive in the invitations
 - to be invited back
 - to be held in esteem
3. What happens? - you will be rewarded - faith
4. Who do you invite to your parties?

III. Larger Issues

1. Humility
 - A. What is true humility?

B. The results of true humility

C. Will it really work?

2. Calls into question the motives for the better seats
 - the motives for sending this one an invitation and not that one
 - if our motives are bad, our manners will be bad
2. A new way to live - courtesy of Jesus
 - humble yourself, deny yourself, crucify yourself, mortify yourself
3. The reality of inequality - all men are not created equal
4. The issue of self-will or selfishness - the basic of all sins
5. It takes faith to live like this
 - !!). -will this work in our culture? Won't people just take advantage of you?

IV. A New Way to Live

1. Live humbly
2. Humble yourself - no one can humble you, but you
3. Marvelously consistent with all Jesus' other teachings:
 - do your praying in a closet (humbly)
 - do your giving in secret (humbly)
 - deny yourself, take up your cross and follow me (Lk. 9:23)
 - humble yourself under the mighty hand of God and he will lift you up in due season - 1 Peter 5:5-6 (spiritual resurrection) (Peter)
 - I have a right to be paid - 1 Cor. 9:13-15 (Paul)
 - Isaac's wells
 - if any of you would be great, let him be a servant
 - repentance is dying to self...
 - a seed must fall to the ground and die - to be "born again"

Washing Feet