

Sermon Notes – June 22, 2014
“God's Party, Everyone is Invited!”
Luke 14:16-24
Pastor Bill Hoffman

In Luke 14:1-14, we see that Jesus tells this story from the home of a religious leader where he is a guest for a meal. What does Jesus notice at this event that disturbs him?

Jesus picks up on a traditional Jewish picture of how, when the Messiah arrived, it would be a time of feasting (for example, see Isaiah 25:6-9). How does this compare with your picture of what fellowship with God is like?

Evaluate the reasons/excuses the originally invited guests give for not coming to the banquet (verses 18-20). Do you see parallels with the reasons people today might give for not wanting to come into joyful fellowship with God and his people?

How broad does the host make the invitation to the banquet, and why does he do this (verses 21-23)? What might this imply about whom churches today ought to invite into their fellowships?

How might East Main – perhaps through you! – become more intentional about issuing such an invitation?

By the end of Jesus' story who does it seem will be at the banquet? To what extent must a person understand themselves to be needy in order to come into fellowship with God?