**Building Core Strength**

**Preparing for the Party Jesus is Giving[[1]](#footnote-1)**

**Luke 14:1-24**

3 principles to help us participate wisely in God's plan of redemption

**I. Don't Complicate the Message with Man-Made Rules**

A. Some people love to make up standards in addition to the Bible and then judge others who don't measure up

**Luke 14:1** - *It happened that when He went into the house of one of the leaders of the Pharisees on the Sabbath to eat bread, they were watching Him closely.*

B. Legalism seldom works in real life

1. Because it gets in the way of showing compassion

2. Because it makes you major on the minors

3. Because it takes your focus off the mission

**v. 4** - *But they kept silent.*

**v. 6** - *And they could make no reply to this*

**II. Carry Yourself with Humility as You Seek to Serve God**

**Luke 14:7** - *And He began speaking a parable to the invited guests when He noticed how they had been picking out the places of honor at the table…*

A. The tendency of the selfish guests

B. The end of the table is often the best place to serve God

**Luke 14:10** - *But when you are invited, go and recline at the last place…*

**Philippians 2:5-8** - *Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*

**III. Remember that the Family God is Assembling is Intentionally Diverse**

**Luke 14:21** - *…Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the city and bring in here the poor and crippled and blind and lame.*

A. Purposely plan time in your life for people who may not be able to reciprocate

**Luke 14:14** - *and you will be blessed, since they do not have the means to repay you; for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.*

B. Be open to God using you in the life of someone who may not be your first choice

1. Dr. Steve Viars [↑](#footnote-ref-1)