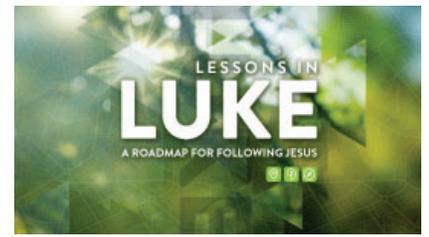


DAILY READING PLAN



Week of August 1, 2021 Lessons in Luke: Humility Luke 14:1a, 7-11

Day One: Read Luke 14:1a, 7-11

¹ One time when Jesus went for a Sabbath meal with one of the top leaders of the Pharisees, he told a story to the guests around the table. ⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ “When you’re invited to dinner, go and sit at the last place. Then when the host comes he may very well say, ‘Friend, come up to the front.’ That will give the dinner guests something to talk about!” ¹ “What I’m saying is, if you walk around with your nose in the air, you’re going to end up flat on your face. But if you’re content to be simply yourself, you will become more than yourself.”

- We’re exploring humility this week. We’ll be asking questions about what humility looks like, how to grow into humility, and what humility is not. For today, read the passage from Luke 14. As you read, ask yourself a few questions: What is humility? How does this passage help your understanding of humility? What do you notice about the story of Jesus at the house of the Pharisee? If you’ve read this story before, what are you noticing now for the first time?

Day Two: Read Luke 14:7-9

⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place.

- Why is the advice Jesus gave so important? What is the wisdom of seeking out a “lower” place and being asked to “be elevated” rather than the opposite? Have you ever been in this position, or know someone who experienced this?

Day Three: Read Luke 14:10

¹⁰ “When you’re invited to dinner, go and sit at the last place. Then when the host comes he may very well say, ‘Friend, come up to the front.’ That will give the dinner guests something to talk about!”

- Studies indicate that there are several characteristics of humble people. Humble people listen well, put others first, speak their minds, set appropriate boundaries, have a high degree of Emotional Intelligence, exhibit a great deal of self-awareness, have an abundance mentality, take time to say “Thank you,” accept feedback, and have a lot of patience. So good so far. What is the danger of reducing humility to a checklist of activities that we think make us better, humbler people?

Day Four: Read Luke 14:11

¹¹ “What I’m saying is, if you walk around with your nose in the air, you’re going to end up flat on your face. But if you’re content to be simply yourself, you will become more than yourself.”

- Jesus’s wisdom is constantly turning conventional thinking upside down. The wisdom of Jesus in this story is that status and standing are given, not gained. Our status and our standing are that we are beloved children of God. This is all a gift of grace from God and not something we achieve by our effort. Jesus looked at the people who were stepping all over each other to get ahead and said, “If you walk around with your nose in the air, you’re going to end up flat on your face.” What is the “Jesus Wisdom” in this? How is this true in your life?

Day Five: Read Luke 14:1a, 7-11

- Read the passage in its whole context again. Jesus’ last word to the people in this story was this: “If you’re content to be simply yourself, you will become more than yourself.” What do you think “more than yourself” means? How are you learning to become content with simply being yourself so that God can equip you to become more than yourself?”