



Sunday Teaching Discussion Guide: FIVE DIRECTIONS 02.10.2019

Recap:

- In Jesus' time, people debate how you were supposed to act on the Sabbath because the day was supposed to be a day of rest. Any kind of work was frowned upon, but how work was defined was up for debate.
- Jesus creates tension at the party and teaches a lesson when he heals a man on the Sabbath. His lesson is clear: compassion, mercy, and love don't take days off.
- The homes and villages were not closed off spaces; they had courtyards and the doors into the village were wide open. The villagers knew who had guests and who was invited and who wasn't. The man Jesus healed wasn't invited. He was out on the street in full view; he was an outsider not welcome to join. So, what Jesus shows in this moment that you can't ignore everyone outside while you enjoy what's happening inside.
- In life, it is easy to invite those you are comfortable with.
- There is always room in the Kingdom of God. Rather than closing the doors and limiting the seating, we need to be build bigger tables, find more seats, and invite people in to experience this party. Why? Because there is still room.
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Discuss:

1. Share a time in which you felt excluded from "the party." What is that feeling like?
2. Have you ever hosted a party and people did not show up like you thought they would?
3. READ Luke 14:1-14
4. Why do you think the Pharisees and experts in the law were hesitant to heal on the Sabbath?
5. In verse 5, Jesus juxtaposes the healing of the man with saving an animal. How did the Pharisees view the man versus how they view the animal?
6. In verse 12, Jesus suggests that people only invite others so that they will be repaid. Do you think this statement is true? Are you a person who has a quid pro quo mentality when it comes to treating others well?
7. READ Luke 14:16-22
8. Why do you think the owner of the house becomes angry? What do you imagine was the "great banquet" he was preparing?
9. Who are some people that you feel called to compel? What encouragement and help do you need in reaching out to them?

Pray: Invite members of your group to share prayer requests. Give a short prayer thanking God for your group discussion and asking God to be with the requests that have been shared.

Read at Home: Additional Readings about Feasts and Banquets

• Psalm 23

• Isaiah 25

• Revelation 19:1-10