

## The Mission: Changed Lives

Part 2 of *BE The Church*

Luke 14:15-23

Pastor Jon Ashley

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### 1. The Parable of the Great Banquet (Luke 14:16-23)

- Initially, guests accepted the invitation (v. 15-16)
- When the time came, they made excuses (v. 17-20)
- Therefore, the host invited those who are usually excluded (v. 21)
- His mission was to fill his house with changed lives (v. 22-23)

### 2. Our Story

- Sometimes we make excuses
- Our defense mechanisms hurt our relationships
- We put other priorities before God
- Still, God longs to fill His house

### 3. The Mission

- Pursue “no excuse” living
- Seek God first
- Show up
- Help people find God

Conclusion: Be the Church by seeking God, loving people, and changing lives!

### REFLECT (Questions to respond to this week):

- Read today’s Bible passage. How is the Holy Spirit speaking to you?
- Why do you think the confirmed guests made excuses for not attending the banquet?
- How did the master respond?
- What excuses do you make for your actions? How does God respond?
- Do you believe God’s love is big enough to handle our lack of love for Him?
- How is God calling you to join in His mission to change lives?

## Scripture Reading

Luke 14:15-23 (ESV)

<sup>15</sup> When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, “Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!” <sup>16</sup> But he said to him, “A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. <sup>17</sup> And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’ <sup>18</sup> But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.’ <sup>19</sup> And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.’ <sup>20</sup> And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ <sup>21</sup> So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.’ <sup>22</sup> And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ <sup>23</sup> And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled.’



Sept. 17 **The Message: Good News** (Mark 1: 14-15)

Sept. 24 **The Goal: Transformation** (John 8:31-32)

**\*Oct. 1\*** **Lead a Life of Worship** (Romans 12:1-2)

**{\*10:30 a.m. Bluegrass Worship & Picnic at Calvin Crest}**

Oct. 8 **Be The Church** (John 21:1-19)