

Throwing a Great Banquet

LUKE 14:7-23

When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable: **8** "When someone **invites** you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been **invited**. **9** If so, the host who **invited** both of you will come and say to you, 'Give this man your seat.' Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. **10** But when you are **invited**, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, 'Friend, move up to a better place.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all your fellow guests. **11** For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted. **12** Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not **invite** your friends, your brothers or relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may **invite** you back and so you will be repaid. **13** But when you give a banquet, **invite** the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, **14** and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous." **15** When one of those at the table with him heard this, he said to Jesus, "Blessed is the man who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God." **16** Jesus replied: "A certain man was preparing a great banquet and **invited** many guests. **17** At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been **invited**, 'Come, for everything is now ready.' **18** "But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said, 'I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.' **19** "Another said, 'I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I'm on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.' **20** "Still another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.' **21** "The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and **bring in** the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.' **22** " 'Sir,' the servant said, 'what you ordered has been done, but there is still room. **23** "Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and **make them come in**, so that my house will be full. **24** I tell you, not one of those men who were **invited** will get a taste of my banquet.' "



In the first parable, what risks and rewards are associated with the behaviors of the guests? What about the hosts?

What is involved in throwing a great banquet?

What do we learn about the Kingdom from these two parables?



Characters in the Great Banquet

CHARACTER	What seems to motivate this person?	How might this apply to New Student Outreach?	How are you like this person?
HOST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive honor <input type="text"/> : wants to bless and be with guests. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Banquet feast= Kingdom advancement = NSO God is the ultimate host who wants to bless and <input type="text"/> 	
SERVANT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Just doing his job His <input type="text"/> with the host. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="text"/> broadly, persuasively, and persistently Expect <input type="text"/> and don't take it personally 	
INVITED GUESTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other priorities <input type="text"/> for the host 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On campus, there are a lot of things competing for new students' time and attention 	
POOR, CRIPPLED, LAME AND BLIND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="text"/> - physical, emotional and social 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On campus there are needy people just waiting to be invited into fellowship and are <input type="text"/> 	

If you are going to host New Student Outreach as a Great Banquet for the campus, what will you need to do?

Case Study

At chapter camp, the leaders planned a New Student Outreach. Read through the attached plans and look at the corresponding calendar.

ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS :

- How much does the chapter want to grow?
- How many new believers do they want to see?
- What does their banquet look like?
- What kinds of resources will they need?
- What obstacles might they face?
- Would you change/add anything to the plans?
- Do you think they will reach their prayer target for new members & new believers based on these plans? Why or why not?

Throwing a Great Banquet

LUKE 14:7-23

What are the characteristics of really great parties you remember?

When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable: **8** "When someone **invites** you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been **invited**. **9** If so, the host who **invited** both of you will come and say to you, 'Give this man your seat.' Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. **10** But when you are **invited**, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, 'Friend, move up to a better place.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all your fellow guests. **11** For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted. **12** Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not **invite** your friends, your brothers or relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may **invite** you back and so you will be repaid. **13** But when you give a banquet, **invite** the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, **14** and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous." **15** When one of those at the table with him heard this, he said to Jesus, "Blessed is the man who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God." **16** Jesus replied: "A certain man was preparing a great banquet and **invited** many guests. **17** At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been **invited**, 'Come, for everything is now ready.' **18** "But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said, 'I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.' **19** "Another said, 'I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I'm on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.' **20** "Still another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.' **21** "The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and **bring in** the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.' **22** " 'Sir,' the servant said, 'what you ordered has been done, but there is still room. **23** "Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and **make them come in**, so that my house will be full. **24** I tell you, not one of those men who were **invited** will get a taste of my banquet.' "



In the first parable, what risks and rewards are associated with the behaviors of the guests? What about the hosts?

It seems for both guest and host it is a short-term vs. long-term risk/reward strategy. In the short term, grabbing honor or being repaid seems best, but in the long-run that can lead to humiliation. It is better to take a strategy that is more likely to pay off over the longest run.

What is involved in throwing a great banquet?

What do we learn about the Kingdom from these two parables?

- As a host... don't just invite people who can pay you back. Instead, invite and honor the people who could never repay you. Expect your repayment from Jesus.
- Kingdom of God is like a lavish banquet prepared for people. Those who will enjoy the banquet are those who will come when invited and respond with gratitude.

INTERVARSITY®

LEADING
EDGE

Characters in the Great Banquet

CHARACTER	What seems to motivate this person?	How might this apply to New Student Outreach?	How are you like this person?
HOST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive honor Relationship : wants to bless and be with guests. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Banquet feast= Kingdom advancement = NSO God is the ultimate host who wants to bless and be honored 	
SERVANT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Just doing his job His relationship with the host. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invite broadly, persuasively, and persistently Expect rejection and don't take it personally 	
INVITED GUESTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other priorities Disregard for the host 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On campus, there are a lot of things competing for new students' time and attention 	
POOR, CRIPPLED, LAME AND BLIND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unmet needs - physical, emotional and social 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On campus there are needy people just waiting to be invited into fellowship and are eager to meet God 	
<p>If you are going to host New Student Outreach as a Great Banquet for the campus, what will you need to do?</p>			

Case Study

The NSO case study and calendar can be found at <http://www.intervarsity.org/mx/item/5088> and <http://www.intervarsity.org/mx/item/5087>.

At chapter camp, the leaders planned a New Student Outreach. Read through the attached plans and look at the corresponding calendar.

ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS :

- How much does the chapter want to grow?
- How many new believers do they want to see?
- What does their banquet look like?
- What kinds of resources will they need?
- What obstacles might they face?
- Would you change/add anything to the plans?
- Do you think they will reach their prayer target for new members & new believers based on these plans? Why or why not?

INTERVARSITY®

LEADING EDGE