



➤ **WHEN LISTENING TO JESUS I NEED TO REMEMBER THAT...**

1. The _____ Jesus makes and _____ that he tells may offend me.

Before telling his Awesome Banquet story Jesus offends...

- The _____ at the banquet.

*One Sabbath, Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched.² In front of him was a man suffering from abnormal swelling of his body.³ Jesus asked the Pharisees and experts in the law, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath or not?"⁴ But they remained silent. So taking hold of the man, he healed him and sent him on his way. **Luke 14:1-4 NIV***

- The _____ at the banquet.

*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...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 the other guests.¹¹ For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." **Luke 14:7, 8, 10, 11 NIV***

- The _____ host of the banquet.

*Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your 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." **Luke 14:7, 8, 11-14 NIV***

*Then the disciples came to him and asked, "Do you realize you offended the Pharisees by what you just said?" **Matthew 15:12 NLT***

2. When Jesus is confronting _____, He may be confronting _____.

*These are all warning markers--DANGER!--in our history books, written down so that we don't repeat their mistakes. Our positions in the story are parallel--they at the beginning, we at the end--and we are just as capable of messing it up as they were.¹² Don't be so naive and self-confident. You're not exempt. You could fall flat on your face as easily as anyone else. **1 Corinthians 10:11, 12 MP***

- Due to this reality, I must sincerely ask "Jesus, who am I?"
Am I the person who listens to trap, not to change.
Am I the host of the wrong people with the wrong motive?
Am I the guest who uses the banquet to bolster my status?

➤ **5 LESSONS FROM THE PARABLE OF THE AWESOME BANQUET**

1. My _____ of faith absent of my _____ of faith is useless.

*When one of those at the table with him heard this, he said to Jesus, "Blessed is the one 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. **Luke 14:15-18a NIV***

*... if a person claims to have faith but does nothing, that faith is worth nothing. Faith like that cannot save anyone. **James 2:18 NCV***

2. My excuses _____ the master, but they do not _____ me.

*...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... **Luke 14:18-21a NIV***

3. The Master, Jesus, wants _____ to be at His Kingdom Banquet.

*...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 compel them to come in, so that my house will be full. **Luke 14:21b-23 NIV***

4. As a _____ of the Master I am to be an _____ of the Master.

*what you ordered has been done... **Luke 14:22b NIV***

5. I'm not welcome at the Kingdom banquet if Jesus in not my _____.

*I tell you, not one of those who were invited will get a taste of my banquet. **Luke 14:24 NIV***

*...imagine a king gearing up to go to war. Wouldn't he begin by sitting down with his advisors to determine whether his 10,000 troops could defeat the opponent's 20,000 troops?³² If not, he'll send a peace delegation quickly and negotiate a peace treaty.³³ In the same way, if you want to be My disciple, it will cost you everything. Don't underestimate that cost! **Luke 14:31-33 VOICE***

Notes:

Reflecting on todays message...

What touched my heart?

What is God asking me to do?

What should I change this week?

Who else needs to hear this message?
