

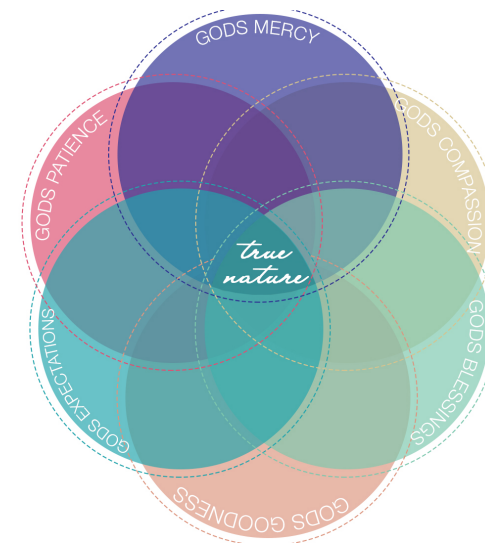
## WALK THE TALK //////////////////////////////////////



*This page is designed for you to apply what you have learned from the Scriptures. Our goal is not just “to know” but to “act upon what we know.” (His Word, Our Walk!)*

*We encourage you to discuss the following questions with family, friends and your LIFEgroup. Although you can review it on your own, it will be most useful to you when processed with others!*

1. Which of the four stories was most interesting to you? Why?
2. Do you think the Pharisees were concerned about Jesus' safety? Why or why not? What do you know about Herod? What have you learned about God's plans and man's plans?
3. What was the most interesting part of the healing story? How was Jesus clever?
4. Do people still scramble for the best seats today? If so, where do you see it? What was the lesson from this section that was most helpful?
5. What did you learn about giving?



June 4-5, 2016 | God's Blessings | Luke 13:31 - 14:14 | Dennis Miller

### TWO LESSONS FOR THIS SERIES:

1. Even though the parables of Jesus are mostly about PEOPLE, we really learn so MUCH about God.
2. We pray, worship, learn, and generally do EVERYTHING better when we understand the NATURE of GOD.

#### I. THE WARNING

*Luke 13:31 At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, “Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you.” 32 He replied, “Go tell that fox, ‘I will keep on driving out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.’ 33 In any case, I must press on today and tomorrow and the next day—for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem! 34 “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. 35 Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’”*

1. The Pharisees were typically OPPOSED to Jesus and His ministry but some of them WARNED Him of danger. *(It could be that they were just trying to get Jesus to LEAVE the area.)* Remember that this Herod was DANGEROUS!
2. Jesus called Herod a FOX, indicating that he was DESTRUCTIVE and DECEITFUL. Jesus declared that He would CONTINUE doing what He had been doing.

3. Saying that He would continue HEALING may have given the Pharisees an IDEA! (The next story!)

4. Jesus expresses His LOVE for the city of Jerusalem but then gives a WARNING and a PROPHECY.

**LESSON:** Don't be THREATENED by wicked people but keep doing what you are CALLED to do!

## II. THE HEALING

*Luke 14:1 One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched. 2 There 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. 5 Then he asked them, "If one of you has a child or an ox that falls into a well on the Sabbath day, will you not immediately pull it out?" 6 And they had nothing to say.*

Healings on Sabbath	Luke 13	Luke 14
Place	Synagogue	Home of Pharisee
Gender & Condition	Woman, bent in half	Man, abnormal swelling
Initiated By	Jesus	Pharisees
Jesus . . .	Did not ask permission	Asked permission
Religious	Criticized Jesus	Were silent (twice)

1. The Pharisee's PURPOSE for inviting Jesus was to TRAP Him. (*Jesus had caught the religious leaders off-guard by HEALING the woman in the previous chapter.*)

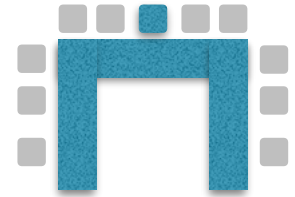
2. Jesus instead trapped them by ASKING a question, and by doing a one-sentence TEACHING. Their plan was FOILED.

**LESSON:** People often make PLANS but God determines the OUTCOME. Trust Him.

## III. THE SEATING

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



1. Jesus watched the SCRAMBLE for the best seats and decided to TEACH a lesson.

2. It is human NATURE to think only of yourself and try to get the BEST seat.

3. Instead, take a LOWER seat. This way you won't be asked to MOVE to a lower seat and you might even be asked to move up to a more IMPORTANT place.

4. Of course, this parable is not really about a MEAL, but about living in a way where we naturally seek to be HUMBLE and to EXALT others.

**LESSON:** Find ways to put OTHERS FIRST and you will be honored by God.

## IV. THE GIVING

*Luke 14:12 Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or 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."*

1. Next, Jesus turned to the prominent Pharisee who had ARRANGED this meal.

2. He indicated that many people serve meals to those who can RETURN the FAVOR. Instead, said Jesus, we should make every effort to invite people who can't REPAY us.

3. God HONORS a person who gives in this way!

**LESSON:** Give for the sake of GIVING and for BLESSING others, not for the sake of receiving in return. And you will receive God's BLESSINGS!