

# “ENOUGH EXCUSES”

Luke 14:15-24 - Pastor Bruce French

## What does making excuses lead to?

1. Making excuses leads to \_\_\_\_\_. Luke 14:18-20

### Assertion...

- Responsiveness invites God’s \_\_\_\_\_. Luke 14:4

2. Making excuses leads to \_\_\_\_\_. Luke 14:21-23

### Assertion...

- Responsiveness invites God’s \_\_\_\_\_. Luke 14:21a

## Take Home Truth

Making excuses leads to \_\_\_\_\_. Luke 14:24

### Assertion...

- Responsiveness invites God’s \_\_\_\_\_.  
Luke 14:17

### Today’s Core Belief:

**Salvation by Grace:** I believe a person comes into a right relationship with God by His grace, through faith in Jesus Christ. *(from Ephesians 2:8-9)*

### Today’s Action:

What have you been making excuses about? Make a game plan to trust God and move forward.



## Deeper Connection Study

Jesus continues his Sabbath meal discussion with his Pharisee host and other guests. The theme of banquet behavior now moves to focus on who is invited and the implications of accepting or denying such a request.

*Today's Core Belief discussed: Salvation by Grace.*

### Read Luke 14:15-24

1. What instruction does Jesus give to his host and why (vv. 12-14)?
2. What is the "feast in the kingdom of God" Jesus speaks about (v. 15; cf. Matt. 22:2; Rev. 19:9)?
3. What excuses are given for not attending the banquet (vv. 18-20)? Why do they refuse to come?
4. Who represent the invited guests that refuse to come? Consequently, who are invited next (vv. 21-24; cf. Isa. 49:6; Acts 13:47-48; 18:6; 28:25-28)? What is Jesus revealing about who gets invited and when?
5. What excuses do people give today for not accepting God's invitation through Jesus Christ? How do Jesus' words also apply to them (v. 24)?
6. How has God given Christians the privilege and responsibility of sharing the gospel (cf. Matt. 28:18-20; 2 Cor. 5:20)? Who are you inviting to meet Jesus?

**PRAYER TO THE POINT:** Praise God for the future banquet celebration of Christ! Pray for people to receive the gracious gift of salvation in Jesus. Ask God to use you as his servant to invite people to know Jesus Christ.

# ENOUGH EXCUSES

"I Don't Care for Religion"

April 8, 2018 - Luke 14:15-24

In an age of entitlement, the art of excuse making is at an all-time high. Pointing the finger and blaming someone else for one's failure is witnessed everywhere from Washington D.C. to Sioux City, Iowa. At the heart of this growing trend is an unwillingness to except responsibility. One of the unfortunate aspects of this tendency is that believers are not exempt. At one time or another, all of us have defaulted to excuse making, rather than stepping up and doing what is right.

Evidently this is not just a 21<sup>st</sup> century problem, because Jesus crafted a parable in the 1<sup>st</sup> century, which addressed this issue. In the opening scene he depicted three individuals who had been invited, and initially said yes, to attend a banquet put on by a wealthy man. But when the reminder notice was sent to these individuals they all declined by making excuses for their absence. The tragedy of this narrative is that the banquet represented heaven and their failure to act affected their eternal destiny.

How about you, is there something that God has invited you to participate in but you have put it off by making excuses about how busy you are, or how you have more pressing priorities?

