

REPENTING OF RELIGION

Understanding the Difference Between Vocation & Status (Handout 1)

Three Promises

Luke 5.30—"Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?"

Pharisees: Religions Political Party

The Rule of the Congregation (or Messiah, 1Q28a; Dead Sea Scrolls)

"I like your Christ; I do not like your Christians. Your Christians are so unlike your Christ."— Mahatma Gandhi

Luke 14.1-6—One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched. There in front of him was a man suffering from abnormal swelling of his body. Jesus asked the Pharisees and experts in the law, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath or not?" But they remained silent. So taking hold of the man, he healed him and sent him on his way. 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?" And they had nothing to say.

Luke 14.7-15—When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable: "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. 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. 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. For or all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." 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. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous." When one of those at the table with him heard this, he said to Jesus, "Blessed are those who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God."

Luke 14.16-24—Jesus replied: "A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests. At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.' "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.' "Another said, 'I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I'm on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.' "Still another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.' "The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, 'Go out

That the world might be healed . . . — John 3.17

*All texts quoted from the TNIV unless otherwise noted.

Vocation:

1. Receive the Invitation
2. Embody
3. Attract
4. Humble Servant Love

Status:

Badge of Righteousness
Holy Club
Saved Club
More Favored Club
More Blessed Club
Morally Superior
Judge/Look Down On / Disdane (the very ones they were to Serve)

Concessions:

Polygamy
Patriarchy
Slavery
Nationalism (w/ King)
Violence

Concession vs. Ideal

Nationalism / All People
Patriarchy / Equal Treatment of Women
Violence / Non-violent Noncooperation

quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.’ “‘Sir,’ the servant said, ‘what you ordered has been done, but there is still room.’ “Then the master told his servant, ‘Go out to the roads and country lanes and urge them to come in, so that my house will be full. I tell you, not one of those who were invited will get a taste of my banquet.’”

Genesis 22.18— In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed.

Isaiah 2.2-3—In days to come the mountain of the LORD’S house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.”

Leviticus 18.7,23—Do not dishonor your father by having sexual relations with your mother. She is your mother; do not have relations with her . . . Do not have sexual relations with an animal and defile yourself with it. A woman must not present herself to an animal to have sexual relations with it; that is a perversion.

Vocation vs. Status: Letting this Confront us

Pharisees

Arrogant Confidence based on:

Pharisees
Jews
Guardians of the Law
Healthy & Wealthy

Christianity Today

What Are Christians Today Known For?

Self Sacrificial love
Humility (vs Arrogance)
The Way we ATTRACT PEOPLE by our humble service?
Are we like Jesus?

Lost Sense of Vocation
Reasons for Confidence



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REPENTING OF RELIGION

Understanding the Difference Between Vocation & Status (Handout 2)

Vocation vs. Status: Letting this Confront us (Cont.)

Jesus Holiness vs Pharisees Holiness

UnChristian: What a New Generation Really Thinks about Christianity...and Why It Matters (David Kinnaman; Dave Lyons)

Humility and Self Sacrificial love don't even make the top 100

Dysfunctional Husband

Studies Show:

Greed, Gluttony, Violence, Self Righteousness, Divorce

Known For:

“Know God”

“Stand for Truth and Righteousness”

“Fix Society” (Take America Back for God)

“Defenders of Truth and Justice”

“Save Marriage”

“Prayer back in public schools”

“Fix the World” (Fight along side of America and Rid the world of evil doers)

No more righteous
no more holy
not smarter
got nothing on anybody
not a holy club
not a saved club
not a truth club
not a fix society club
not a fix world club
no place to judge anybody
not called to judge anybody

1. Recieve
2. Emody
3. Invite
4. Humble Servant Love

YOU HAVE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!!

WE'VE GOT TO LET THIS PARABLE CONFRONT US!!!!

Promise

Kingdom of Jesus; For Outsiders:

Already Humble (don't have a leg to stand on)

Assumed you were outside the system

Felt like a loser at the religious game

This invitation is especially to you!

Outsiders and Marginalized (The ones Jesus hung out with.)

You GET IT! (Least inclinde to judge, oppress, tread on others.)

Outcasts, Outsiders, Misfits, Looked Down On: NEW TRIBE!

That the world might be healed . . . – John 3.17

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Substance Abuse
Divorced
Abortion
Sexual Orientation
Affair
Murder

YOU ARE NOT OUTSIDE OF THIS INVITATION!

The Table

Luke 14.24—I tell you, not one of those who were invited will get a taste of my banquet. (What does this mean for both parties.)

One God (One Judge)

One Job:

1. Serve, Love, Be Humble, Resources to be a Source of Healing
2. Put on Display a World Changed the Sermon on the Mount

Lord Irwin and Gandhi:

“When your country and mine shall get together on the teachings laid down by Christ in this Sermon on the Mount, we shall have solved the problems not only of our countries but those of the whole world.”

3. Invite Others

A Way to Heal the World:

Not About Getting to Heaven but bring Healing to Earth



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