

Pastor Dave Rohde

For Sunday, November 19th "A Generous Table"

Psalm 23 - *NIV*

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,

³ he refreshes my soul.

He guides me along the right paths
for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk
through the darkest valley,

I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely your goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord
forever.

Luke 14:15-24 – *NIV*

¹⁵ 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. 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 compel them to come in, so that my house will be full. ²⁴ I tell you, not one of those who were invited will get a taste of my banquet.’”

Takeaway: Extravagant generosity begins with an invitation.

Questions

1. What’s your favorite Thanksgiving dish? In your mind (or to your tastebuds!), what’s the most over-rated Thanksgiving dish?
2. Psalm 23 is among the most well-known passages in Scripture. Share about the time you first remember hearing it. What does it teach us about the generosity of God?
3. Share about a time you were invited to a party (or dinner) where you didn’t quite belong. What made you feel that way? What was difficult? What was surprising?
4. Reflect on the three roles discussed in the parable — the person throwing the party, the servant, and those who are invited. What can we learn from each person?

Sermon: <https://podcast.wpcwestlake.org/services/mp3/sermon20231119.mp3>

Service Video: <https://youtu.be/EuZAfCYfja0>