

## BE A BRINGER

*“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”*  
John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

## PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

*“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....”* I Samuel 12:23a

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**MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK**  
Kyle Briar | Romania

- Please pray for this to be an opportunity to not only bring rest and refreshment to their bodies but open hearts to accept our Lord and to find their salvation through Him.
- Please pray for strong partnerships, allowing us to serve our Lord effectively together.
- Please pray for our family and friends who are struggling with goodbye.
- Please pray over our travels on March 28th and 29th. For many in our family this will be their first time on a plane.
- This is a long journey, and we need prayers for everything to go smoothly and all 7 of us to stay healthy.
- Please pray for translators to help with language barriers. We are starting language school for Romanian but many of the refugees speak Ukrainian and Russian.

## The Story Of The Great Feast

In the parable, a man planned a large banquet and sent out invitations. When the banquet was ready, he sent his servant to contact each of the invited guests, telling them that all was ready and the meal was about to start (verses 16-17). One after another, the guests made excuses for not coming. One had just bought a piece of land and said he had to go see it (verse 18). Another had purchased some oxen and said he was on the way to yoke them up and try them out (verse 19). Another gave the excuse that he was newly married and therefore could not come (verse 20).

When the master of the house heard these flimsy excuses, he was angry. He told his servant to forget the guest list and go into the back streets and alleyways of the town and invite “the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame” (verse 21). The servant had already brought in the down-and-out townspeople, and still there was room in the banquet hall. So the master sent his servant on a broader search: “Go out to the roads and country lanes and make them come in, so that my house will be full” (verses 22-23).

The master of the house is God, and the great banquet is the kingdom, a metaphor that was suggested by the speaker at the table. The invited guests picture the Jewish nation. The kingdom was prepared for them, but when Jesus came preaching that “the kingdom of heaven is near” (Matthew 4:17), He was rejected. “He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him” (John 1:11).

The excuses for skipping the banquet are laughably bad. No one buys land without seeing it first, and the same can be said for buying oxen. And what, exactly, would keep a newly married couple from attending a social event? All three excuses in the parable reveal insincerity on the part of those invited. The interpretation is that the Jews of Jesus’ day had no valid excuse for spurning Jesus’ message; in fact, they had every reason to accept Him as their Messiah.

The detail that the invitation is opened up to society’s maimed and downtrodden is important. These were the types of people that the Pharisees considered “unclean” and under God’s curse (cf. John 9:1-2, 34). Jesus, however, taught that the kingdom was available even to those considered “unclean” (cf. Acts 10). His involvement with tax collectors and sinners brought condemnation from the Pharisees, yet it showed the extent of God’s grace (Matthew 9:10-11). The fact that the master in the parable sends the servant far afield to persuade everyone to come indicates that the offer of salvation would be extended to the Gentiles and “to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8). “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people” (Romans 15:10).

The master is not satisfied with a partially full banquet hall; he wants every place at the table to be filled.

Source: Gotquestions.org

## KEY VERSE

Luke 14:23 (NKJV)

*“Then the master said to the servant, ‘Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled!’”*

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## WEEKLY READINGS

**Monday: Luke 13:34-14:1-23**

### Introduction

1. The Story of the Great Feast begins with Luke 14:15. List things that Jesus did in today’s readings prior to this story.
2. How do the things listed above relate and give background to Story of the Great Feast?

**Tuesday: Luke 14:15-17; Isaiah 25:6-8; John 6:35-40**

### God Prepares a Feast For His People

3. What did the guest sitting next to Jesus say to Him? How does that give us insight into what the feast in the story represents?
4. What does it mean to have God prepare a feast for you? In what ways can you spiritually feast now? In what ways will you feast in heaven?

**Wednesday: Luke 14:18-20; Isaiah 55:6-7; Romans 10:9-13**

### Some Reject God’s Invitation

5. What are some reasons why people reject God? Why is it not wise to delay His invitation?
6. How do people say yes to God?

**Thursday: Luke 14:21; Revelation 19:6-9; Ephesians 3:18-19**

### See the Heart of God

7. What would you do if you had a party and at the last minute all the guests backed out?
8. What did the master do when he was told his guests weren’t coming? What does it say about God?
9. Who did he tell his servant to go and invite? Why do you think he told his servant to invite these people?

**Friday: Luke 14:22-23; II Corinthians 5:18-20**

### Go and Invite

10. What does it signify that there was still room at the banquet? Where did the master tell the servant to look for more people?
11. List some people in your life who don’t know God. What does it mean for you to compel them? What does it mean that you are an ambassador to them?
12. Easter is a great time to have conversations about God and invite people to church. List some people you can reach out to and invite this week.