

COLLECTIVE

June 5, 2022

HIDDEN IN CHRIST

Luke 14: 1-14

Jesus has an interesting way of engaging the people around him, usually addressing things at a deeper manner, speaking straight to the core of the issue. Rather than just easing the symptoms of a sickness, He has the wisdom to engage into the core, and that's how he wants to work in and through us. There is no meaningful change until there is a lifestyle change.

Read Luke 14:1-14

1 – Choose Mercy

Luke 14:1-6

It is easy to see the hypocrisy of the Pharisees. They have invited Jesus and this man who was suffering from abnormal swelling to dinner under false pretence.

Hypocrisy is pretending to be something that you are not, as if you care, but you are not.

Jesus confronted their hypocrisy by asking,
“Is it lawful to heal this man on the Sabbath?”

Jesus always confronts by questioning back because it raises awareness.

Matthew 12:11

Mark 3:4

Genuine relationship or love changes the conviction or even principles of many people. The Pharisees are so eager to prove what is right and wrong, but Jesus showed Mercy.

Matthew 23: 23

Choose mercy over judgement.

James 2: 12-13

Matthew 9:13

We exist, not to judge but to show mercy. **It is God's kindness that leads people to repentance. Let us live with such conviction.**

2 – Live Humbly

Luke 14: 10-11

Jesus confronted the attitude of those that exalt themselves, fighting for positions and self-interest. And teaches the people to humble themselves.

Merriam-Webster defines humility as “freedom from pride or arrogance.”

It's not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less. – C.S Lewis

Romans 12: 3

Sober judgement means you know what you are worth and where you stand in God. Thus, growing in humility is a lifelong venture as you increase in knowledge of God's word and in appreciation for God's work through Christ.

True humility is staying teachable regardless of how much you already know.

James 4:10 – *Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up.*

3 – Pursue Righteousness

Luke 14: 12-14

There is the resurrection of the righteous!

We need to check, as we grow in life, are we having more self-righteousness or God's righteousness in us?

God's righteousness leads us to practice our lifestyle on being more like Christ, whereas self-righteousness causes us to trust our own judgement, and build our own kingdom.

“You can easily judge the character of a man by how he treats those who can do nothing for him.” – Simon Sinek

Colossians 3: 1-3

What does it mean to have my life hidden in Christ?

Being hidden in Christ means that **your identity has been established, not based on anything that you have done, but upon what Christ has done for you.** It means that your security is established because Christ has secured it, it means that **through faith in Christ you have been redeemed from sin and its penalty, reconciled to God, and adopted into His family.**

At the end of the day, where do we place our security?

Is it our insecurity that is controlling us in the way that we live our lives?

We cannot show mercy, live humbly and keep our integrity, because we are insecure.