



## 4. How We Do Invitation

Start off with feedback from Sunday's message. What did those that were there - or those that have caught up online - take away from it? What encouraged them, what informed them and what challenged them?

Read Luke 14.15-24

**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."*

- How does the picture of God's Kingdom as a great party strike you? Does this match with your view of Heaven? And do we talk about this enough?
- It's the Guests' Responsibility to accept God's invitation, but it's Our Responsibility to invite them. Discuss.
- v23. *'compel them to come in'*. What does it look like for us to compel people to enter the Kingdom of Heaven? How can we as church do that more effectively?
- 80% of people that aren't vehemently opposed to faith would come to church if a Christian friend invited them, yet 75% of Christians won't invite those friends because they fear rejection or losing the friendship. How do you feel about this and what is it that holds us back from inviting others?
- v24. What is the ultimate punishment for those that reject God's invitation and why is it so devastating?
- Who are the three (or more) people that you're planning to invite to Metro Carols? What are the challenges there and what do you need prayer for?

Big Idea: 'It's not our responsibility to make people take their place in God's Great Celebration. But it is our responsibility to invite them.'

Break into smaller groups and pray for God's help in this area. Pray that nobody feels condemned or pressured, but pray for a genuine and growing desire to bring others into God's great party.

Pray for those that you're planning to invite by name. Pray for opportunities to do that and for the boldness and grace to give a compelling, Christ-like invitation. Pray for the church to be an effective servant, carrying out the wishes of the Master.