

Luke 14:16-18

Then He said to him, "A certain man gave a great supper and invited many, and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, 'Come, for all things are now ready.' But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.'"

One question people have is, "Did Adam have a bellybutton?" Interesting question, but if you never get the answer, will your excuse to God be that you didn't believe in Jesus because you didn't know if Adam had a bellybutton or not?

Or maybe you do believe in Jesus, but you have chosen (by your own free will) not to give your life to Jesus.

Or simply and honestly, you don't want to give up your lifestyle, and you are enjoying sin too much, and chose to live in the, here and now, and will worry about eternity when it happens.

God is inviting each and every person to enjoy the wedding feast in Heaven with our Bridegroom, Jesus. And just like in today's devotional, so many give excuses for why they can't or don't want to go.

† **Luke 14:18-20 (MSG)** ***Then they all began to beg off, one after another making excuses. The first said, 'I bought a piece of property and need to look it over. Send my regrets.'*** ***"Another said, 'I just bought five teams of oxen, and I really need to check them out. Send my regrets.'*** ***"And yet another said, 'I just got married and need to get home to my wife.'***

I just bought a house, so I can't go to the wedding.

I just bought a car, so I can't go to the wedding.

If I go to the wedding my wife will be upset.

We laugh at these excuses, because we know that's what they are, excuses, and an excuse is just a fancy way of saying, "Nope I don't care about you, and it's all about me."

Maybe you are saved, yet how many excuses do you give to God for why you are not doing anything for the Kingdom of God?

I can't read my bible because I don't like to read, or my TV show is about to come on.

I can't help out in the kids ministry because I don't know how to teach, and kids don't like me.

I can't tithe because I need more stuff, and I won't have any money left over after I tithe.

I can't pray for you because I have too much going on in my own life to worry about.

Excuses, excuses, excuses. Some of you are not saved, and maybe your excuse is you will give your life to Jesus at church on Easter, after all, it's only a year away. ***"But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you'" Luke 12:20a***

We never know if we have tomorrow, or a month, or a year, or 50 years. You never know, you could have a heart attack right here and now before you finish reading this devotional. I know that doesn't make you feel good all over when you read that, but it's the reality of life... and death. Because we never know.

Once again, ***Jesus said, "No procrastination. No backward looks. You can't put God's kingdom off till tomorrow. Seize the day."*** Luke 9:62 (MSG)

The bible says:

† ***"For He says: 'In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you.'" Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation."*** 2 Corinthians 6:2

Not Easter Sunday, not next Sunday, not when you get that promotion at work, not after your kids are out of the house and you are ready to retire, not on the day that you are on your deathbed, not when you get better and sin less. No, right now is the day of salvation, just as right now is the time for you to get off your pew and start doing for the kingdom of Heaven.

† ***James 4:13-14 "Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit'; whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away."***