

Luke 14:16-17

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.'"

Over the years we have all received an invitation to a party, whether it was as kids to a birthday party, or as grownups with an invitation to a wedding or whatever. Sometimes on these invitations there will be a little sentence at the bottom saying, "Bring a friend" or now a days they call it a "Plus one".

When you read that you start to wonder who you should bring along to the party or wedding or event. Sure your husband or wife is also going, but who else would you want to bring to this party?

Let's say you started to ask your friends to come with you and they started to make up excuses.

† **Luke 14:18-20** ***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.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.' Still another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.'***

No one wanted to come, it's not that they don't like you, but maybe they don't like the person who is throwing the party. So what do you do? Do you go anyway or just skip it because your friends don't want to go with you?

Let's see what the bible says to do?

† **Luke 14:21-24** ***"So that servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house, being angry, said to his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.' And the servant said, 'Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room. '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. 'For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.' "***

Now think of how many of your friends you have invited to church or even to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Some of them may have made up excuses for not doing it. You could continue to hound them until they do because they are tired of listening to you, or you can do what the bible says and start inviting strangers, the homeless, ***the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.***

Those who are in need and are ready and willing to join this party in heaven.

But you also don't give up on your friends, because one day the Lord may have someone else ask them to join the party in heaven, and they just might accept their invitation.

† **1 Timothy 2:3-4** *For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.*