Luke 14. One Sabbath day Jesus went to eat dinner in the home of a leader of the Pharisees, and the people were watching him closely. Verse 2. There was a man there whose arms and legs were swollen. Verse 3. Jesus asked the Pharisees and experts in religious law,
"Is it permitted in the law to heal people on the Sabbath day, or not?" Verse 4. When they refused to answer, Jesus touched the sick man and healed him and sent him away. Verse 5. Then he turned to them and said, "Which of you
doesn't work on the Sabbath? If your son or your cow falls into a pit, don't you rush to get him out?" Verse 6. Again they could not answer. Verse 7. When Jesus noticed that all who had come to the dinner were trying to sit in the seats of honor near the head of the table,
he gave them this advice: Verse 8. "When you are invited to a wedding feast, don't sit in the seat of honor. What if someone who is more distinguished than you has also been invited? Verse 9. The host will come and say, 'Give this person your seat.' NLT
Then you will be embarrassed, and you will have to take whatever seat is left at the foot of the table! Verse 10. "Instead, take the lowest place at the foot of the table. Then when your host sees you, he will come and say, 'Friend, we have a better place for you!' Then you will be honored in front of all the other guests." NLT
Verse 11. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." Verse 12. Then he turned to his host. "When you put on a luncheon or a banquet," he said, "don't invite your friends, brothers, relatives, NLT
and rich neighbors. For they will invite you back, and that will be your only reward. Verse 13. Instead, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. Verse 14. Then at the resurrection of the righteous, God will reward you
for inviting those who could not repay you."  Verse 15. Hearing this, a man sitting at the table with Jesus exclaimed, "What a blessing it will be to attend a banquet in the Kingdom of God!"  Verse 16. Jesus replied with this story: "A man
prepared a great feast and sent out many invitations. Verse 17. When the banquet was ready, he sent his servant to tell the guests, 'Come, the banquet is ready.' Verse 18. But they all began making excuses. One said, 'I have just bought a field
and must inspect it. Please excuse me.' Verse 19. Another said, 'I have just bought five pairs of oxen, and I want to try them out. Please excuse me.' Verse 20. Another said, 'I now have a wife, so I can't come.' Verse 21. "The servant returned and told his master what they had said. His master
was furious and said, ‘Go quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and invite the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.’ Verse 22. After the servant had done this, he reported, ‘There is still room for more.’ Verse 23. So his master said, ‘Go out into the country lanes and behind the hedges’ NLT
and urge anyone you find to come, so that the house will be full. Verse 24. For none of those I first invited will get even the smallest taste of my banquet.”  Verse 25. A large crowd was following Jesus. He turned around and said to them,
Verse 26. "If you want to be my disciple, you must hate everyone else by comparison -- your father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters -- yes, even your own life. Otherwise, you cannot be my disciple. Verse 27. And if you do not carry your own cross and follow me,
You cannot be my disciple. Verse 28. "But don't begin until you count the cost. For who would begin construction of a building without first calculating the cost to see if there is enough money to finish it?" NLT
Verse 29. Otherwise, you might complete only the foundation before running out of money, and then everyone would laugh at you. Verse 30. They would say, ‘There’s the person who started that building and couldn’t afford to finish it!’ NLT
Verse 31. "Or what king would go to war against another king without first sitting down with his counselors to discuss whether his army of 10,000 could defeat the 20,000 soldiers marching against him?  Verse 32. And if he can't, he will send a delegation to NLT
discuss terms of peace while the enemy is still far away. Verse 33. So you cannot become my disciple without giving up everything you own. Verse 34. "Salt is good for seasoning. But if it loses its flavor, how do you make it salty again? NLT
Verse 35. Flavorless salt is good neither for the soil nor for the manure pile. It is thrown away. Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand!" NLT