PLEASE EXCUSE ME:

The Story of the Dinner Guests

(Sermon by Ray Reynolds on 9/20/09 - AM)

Text: **Luke 14:15-24**

Introduction: Jesus had a way of knowing exactly what stories were appropriate in every given situation. He had been invited to the home of the "*ruler of the Pharisees*" to eat dinner (**Luke 14:1**). One of the guests interrupts Jesus' speaking and states, "*Blessed is he who shall eat bread in the kingdom of God!*" (v.15) After this statement Jesus takes the opportunity to teach one more parable. Let's study together. . . . .

Discussion:

I. THE UNLUCKY HOST (v.14)
Matthew 21:21 **Matthew 23:13**

II. THE UNBELIEVABLE BANQUET (v.15)
Matthew 6:26 **Luke 11:13** **Ephesians 1:3**
James 1:17

III. THE UNGRATEFUL PEOPLE (vs.16-20)
I John 2:16 **Deuteronomy 24:5** **Luke 9:57-62**

IV. THE UNLIKELY GUESTS (vs.21-22)
Matthew 3:1 **Matthew 4:17** **Matthew 10:6**
Acts 1:8 **Luke 19:10**

V. THE UNEXPECTED RESULTS (vs.23-24)
Matthew 11:28-30 **Revelation 22:17** **Matthew 28:18-20**
Mark 16:15

Conclusion: We should never neglect or reject the invitation of the Lord! Do you reject God's grace? His grace can save you! Have you been rejected by others who are unwilling to accept the Lord's call? Remember that they are rejecting Christ and not you. You have been given a great invitation today. How will you respond?

WORD OF THE DAY = "**Invitation**"