

Hope Presbyterian Church
Sermon-Based Bible Study Group



June 4, 2023 - “Welcome” - #3 in the series Upside-Down Kingdom

Texts Referenced: Luke 14: 7-14, Matthew 25:40

1. What stood out to you about the message?
2. Think about how serving or hosting a meal has long been a way to extend hospitality, celebrate a special occasion, honor someone, or recognize an accomplishment.
 - What are some characteristics of formal dinners or banquets you’ve observed or experienced?
 - What makes you feel welcome at a meal, banquet, or feast?
3. **Read Luke 14: 7-11.**
 - What are some motivations behind seating arrangements at formal and informal meals?
 - What is a deeper truth Jesus hoped to reveal while interrogating the customs and practices of hosting a banquet?
4. **Read Luke 14:12-14.**
 - Why would it have been difficult for the dinner host to “invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind” to his table?
 - What connections do you see between hosting a meal and the meaning of “sanctuary” - any place of refuge, safety, and welcome?
5. **Read Matthew 25: 40.**
 - How are we a “sanctuary” as a congregation?
 - What more can we do to welcome those looking for a place of safety and refuge?
6. How can we pray for you?