

FOR THE ONE

MAKING A WAY
FOR THE ONE.

FOR THE ONE Part 2—The Power of the Invitation **Jude Fouquier** **3.27.2022**

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

Every one of us is here as a result of the invitation that someone extended to us. There is someone who is not yet here that will be here in the future because of your invite.

[Matthew 11:28-30]

“Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly.

Jesus is inviting every single one of us to sit at His Table. At his table is love unconditional, joy overflowing, peace beyond understanding. There is forgiveness, there is grace, there is healing, there is acceptance, there is hope, and there is freedom from the sin that is trying to destroy our lives.

[1 Peter 2:9]

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

God is calling you into a new way of living. You're not called to be a spectator. You're called to get in the game.

The Greek word for “called out” is ***kaleō*** which means to Invite (***ekklesia***= the called out ones. So the word for church is a group of invited people)

Inviting becomes second nature when we know what we have been invited into, invited out of, and invited to play a part in.

[Matthew 4:19]

And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

Immediately after accepting Jesus' invitation to follow him, He gives us a purpose and assignment to reach people.

- 1. Prayer always proceeds the invitation.**
- 2. Build relationship.**
- 3. Be sensitive to the Spirit.**

[John 4:28]

Immediately after she experienced the invitation of Jesus it says this. So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, “Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?”

[Psalms 34:8]

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good!

FOR MONDAY—

1. Pray for those that you feel burdened to bring to church. Ask God to soften their hearts and speak to them even now.
2. Stop, pause, look, and listen. Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit to work through you.

ACTION STEP—

Write a list of people for whom you are praying and planning to invite to church, including your “longshot.”

TALK IT THROUGH

1. How can invitations look drastically different based on context and motivation? What are some examples that have made you excited or even those that brought apprehension?
2. Do you ever get nervous inviting people to church? What is the danger slipping into the role of a spectator? What has helped you deal with any hesitation?
3. Why is invitation a lifestyle we live as believers in Jesus? What is your personal framework for how and why you do it? How does Matthew 11:28-30 highlight the Good News we have to offer?
4. What type of circumstances did you face before you came to church? How have those changed since getting planted in church?

5. The ***ekklesia*** refers to the “called out ones.” Why is the principle of being called out important? What have you personally been called into, out of, and given a part to play?
6. Have you fully taken a seat at the table? What does that truly look like to those around you, and how has that changed your attitude in the invitation?
7. Of the three practical things that make for an easier invitation, what speaks to you in this season of life?
8. Who, in your life, needs a seat at the Table? What circumstances surround your “longshot” that seem challenging?
9. What makes an invitation so clear? How can you apply those keys to your personal invitations in the days ahead?
10. How does the intentional interaction Jesus had with the woman at the well (John 4) illustrate the longterm impact and power of the invitation?