

# LWML *Texas* District

December 18, 2023

Meditation

## Needy

If you were to look in your pantry right now, what would you see? Do you have all the ingredients you need to make a meal? It might not be your favorite food or something you would make on a regular basis, but many of us have more than enough to make many meals with the food we already own.

*When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, “Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!” But he said to him, “A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’ But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.’ And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.’ And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.’ And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’” (Luke 14:15–24).*

What excuses do you give for not participating in God’s kingdom here on earth? I have the things I need, but am I using them for a holy purpose? Am I seeking to share with the lonely, the hungry, the needy? Am I invested in serving God through our daily lives as Christians, or am I making excuses for why I can’t do those things?

It is humbling to see myself in the light of one making excuses. I much prefer to see myself as the outcast invited in at the last minute. God has more than enough room at His banquet table for each of us, and for each of us to invite someone to join.

Praise God for inviting us to His banquet! Praise be to God for the forgiveness He grants us when we fail to live up to our calling as His children! Praise God that He continues to give us more opportunities to serve Him even after we have failed in the past! Praise God that He does the work to bring others to faith through His Spirit. Praise God for enabling us to play a small role in sharing His love in the middle of a needy world.

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