



THROWING BETTER PARTIES

SERMON #7 DISCUSSION GUIDE: Week of October 24, 2021

Scripture: Luke 15

Big Idea: Throwing Better Parties is What Jesus is All About.

Discussion Questions:

1. Who are you befriending? Who are you offending? Who does it reflect more: Jesus or the Pharisees?
2. How can we throw better parties that honor God, show others His love, and celebrate other people?
3. Read Luke 15:11-32. In the parable of the Prodigal Son, which character do you most identify with: (1) the Prodigal Son, (2) the Father, or (3) the Older Brother? Why?
4. Has there been a time in your life where a 3-minute conversation changed your day?
5. Who can you throw a 3-minute party for this week?

Action Steps:

1. Choose to take the step of baptism. Surrender your life to Jesus and follow him. Then, throw a party and celebrate. Invite people over to celebrate this decision. Eat, drink and be merry.
2. Throw a party for someone you know who needs the Love of Jesus.

Throwing Better Parties Sermon Content Review:

I've been to a lot of parties in my life. Birthday, graduation, tailgate, keggers just to name a few. Parties are a lot of fun for a lot of reasons. Most importantly, we get to celebrate something that matters to someone, we get to see family and friends, and we have a chance to let all our cares melt away as we spend time laughing and talking.

When people think of "church" they don't often think of "party" but that's a recurring theme in the gospels, a recurring theme in the parables of Jesus. Jesus was regularly eating and drinking with others and he wanted people to have fun. This is what we want at church. We want people to actually miss church. Why? Because that's where the party is at. And what are we celebrating?

Jesus tells three parables in the Gospel of Luke that show us exactly what he is celebrating when we have a party. He was showing us that when we find something that is lost, then we should be celebrating and having a party. And ultimately, the lost people of this world who are found by God are worth celebrating. We need to make our celebrations about the wins for the kingdom of God. When the son comes home, we should spare no expense to celebrate his return.

Gospel: Jesus spent time with Pharisees and with tax collectors, and he offended them both. Celebrations have always been a part of the story of God, and Jesus claimed to be the ultimate giver of abundant life. We need to develop a healthy theology of fun. His sacrifice was sad but ultimately it leads to a celebration for all who call upon his name.

REFERENCE: <https://national.cc/media/neighbor>

Notes: