



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of March 5, 2023

Sermon Text *Luke 14:1-14*

1 One Sabbath, when he went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. **2** And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. **3** And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" **4** But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. **5** And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" **6** And they could not reply to these things. **7** Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, **8** "When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, **9** and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. **10** But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. **11** For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." **12** He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. **13** But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, **14** and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

If you were not able to listen to this week's sermon, then please refer to this link to listen prior to answering these questions, <http://hawaiiikaichurch.org/sermons/page/1>.

Discussion Questions

1. In the Christian life, what do you think it means that "the way up is down" and how is this contrary to the world's ways?
2. How do you think it was possible that Jesus' many miracles were not enough to convince the Pharisees to believe in Him? Do you think if God were to write in the sky, "I am Jesus Christ the Savior, believe in Me!", that everyone in the world would suddenly become a Christian? Why or why not?
3. How do Christians sometimes try to "sit down in a place of honor" within the church today? Why is humility so important in the Christian life?

4. What does it look like in today's world for a person to "sit in the lowest place"? What side of the table do you seek to sit on, and why is this question so important for us to think about?

5. Does the way you live show you care more about the present life or the life to come? How can a Christian shift his/her focus in life from the temporal to the eternal?