**That Power of an Invitation**

Now is the Time Part Three

NOW is the time

**Isaiah 54:2 NIV,**

“ENLARGE the place of your tent, STRETCH your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; LENGTHEN your cords, STRENGTHEN your stakes.

Now is the time to **ENLARGE** our space, **STRETCH** our faith, **LENGTHEN** our reach, and **STRENGTHEN** our roots.

“The Power of an Invitation”.

**John 3:16** **NIV**,

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

**Luke 14 NIV,**

**16**Jesus replied: “A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests. **17**At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’

**18**“But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said, ‘I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.’ **19**“Another said, ‘I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I’m on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.’

 **20**“Still another said, ‘I just got married, so I can’t come.’ **21**“The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, ‘Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.’

**22**“‘Sir,’ the servant said, ‘what you ordered has been done, but there is still room.’ **23**“Then the master told his servant, ‘Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full.

God wants us to INVITE people to the table.

God gives His followers the responsibility to INVITE others to know Jesus.

**THE INVITATION.**

**If the church is the table, then we need to INVITE people to come to the table.**

**Luke 14 NIV,**

**23**“Then the master told his servant, ‘Go out to the roads and country lanes and COMPEL THEM TO COME IN, so that my house will be full.

It is God’s heart and driving desire that HIS CHURCH GROWS and is FULL because everyone needs salvation and eternal life.

Our mission is to lead people who are far from God into a transforming relationship with Jesus.

**Who are you inviting to the table?**

* Pray for an opportunity.
* Consider people you are in relationship with.
* Don’t be aggressive.
* Give a simple invitation.

**THE PREPARATION.**

**1 Peter 4 NIV,**

**9**Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. **10**Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.

**You will never understand the church, and you will never understand why we do what we do, until you bring someone to sit in this chair.**

**THE TRANSFORMATION**.

**2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV**,

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

NOW IS THE TIME TO INVITE.