

## “Saving Seats or Filling Them?”

(1) Getting Started	(3) Digging Deeper
<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Leader:</b> Continue to get to know the members in your group with an ice-breaker question of your choice.</li> </ul> <p><b>Vision for the Semester</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● While we don’t technically celebrate Halloween, as a church, we do engage with those in our neighborhoods who do.</li> <li>● Would your group be willing to host a Halloween Block Party this year?</li> <li>● If so, work through the questions in the <b>Vision Builder</b> located in Church Center Group Resources for Small Groups.</li> </ul> <p><b>Prayer Requests</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Take prayer requests and spend time as a group in prayer, either at the beginning or end of the meeting.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Read Luke 14:1-15</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How would you describe the “vibe” of this dinner party, considering what you just read?</li> <li>● Why do you think the Pharisees didn’t have an answer for Jesus’ question about the Sabbath?</li> <li>● What does this reveal about their hearts?</li> <li>● What do you think the Pharisees' reasons were for inviting Jesus to the banquet?</li> </ul>
(2) Read Scripture	(4) Application
<p><b>Read</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Luke 14:16-24</li> </ul> <p><b>Questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Why were the Pharisees typically at odds with Jesus? What was their main goal, and how was this different from Jesus’?</li> <li>● What are some cultural factors we should remember about banquets in ancient Israel? What were they typically for?</li> <li>● Why do you think Jesus accepted this invitation to this banquet?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How have you been saving seats rather than filling them?</li> <li>● Who are the people groups in the streets and alleys of Battle Creek, who could use an invite to the table? How?</li> <li>● What “tables” exist already at BCCC for these people groups?</li> <li>● How could you, as a group, build a new table for new kinds of people?</li> <li>● Is there “room at the table” at your Small Group for the poor, crippled, blind, or sick? How can you make sure there is?</li> </ul> <p>Close in prayer.</p>