



Week: 3 - Yes

Date: Jan. 31, 2021

Scripture: Luke 17:11-19 – Ten lepers healed, and one give thanks

Big Idea: Everyone wants to enjoy the blessings of God – but not everyone is willing to do the work or walk the road that gets them there. Jesus invites us into his kingdom, his family, and eternal life – but it doesn't come without a cost. Following Jesus isn't easy, but it is good and more than worth it. The temptation is to make excuses about why we can't follow Jesus completely. Excuses are nothing more than obstacles to experiencing all of God's best, including his power to overcome. Removing these obstacles begins when we simply say to Jesus, "YES."

Video: See CompassStudents Youtube channel

Preparation: Mom and/or dad, take time to prepare well for this spiritual experience with your son or daughter and perhaps their friends. Proper preparation includes reading through this guide, setting up a comfortable environment, preparing the videos, materials (*everyone will need a Bible, pen and notebook/journal*) and snacks, and prayer. It also includes giving your participants time to prepare as well. Let them know in advance what you want to do and then remind them a few minutes before your start time so that they are ready too.

Interactive game / activity

- @Home: [Restaurant Emoji Challenge](#)

Using this [Google Slides Presentation](#), students will see a series of questions asking who we should thank for various things.

Activity Debrief: (This would be a good time to pass out snacks)

Where is your favorite place to eat out (doesn't have to be fast food)??

Video Teaching: 4Words - Thanks

"Today we are continuing our series 4Words. If we are going to move forwards this year, there are four-words that we need to speak regularly. These four words are please, thanks, yes, and no. Tonight we continue with "Yes". Everyone wants to enjoy the blessings of God, but not everyone is willing to do the work or walk the road that gets them there. Jesus invites us into His kingdom, His family, and eternal life – but it doesn't come without a cost. Following Jesus isn't easy, but it is good and more than worth it. The temptation is to make excuses about why we can't follow Jesus completely. Excuses are nothing more than obstacles to experiencing all of God's best, including His power to overcome. Removing these obstacles begins when we simply say "Yes" to Jesus. "

Play the video (See CompassStudents Youtube channel).

Ice Breakers:

- What is the best meal you have ever eaten?
- What is your favorite food to eat when celebrating?

Discussion Starters:

- What is the fanciest / most formal meal or gathering you have ever attended?
- What is your favorite memory revolving around a meal / feast / party / food? (EX. for George it was shoving cake in his wife's face on their wedding day even though she told him not to, it was such a fun moment together to start their marriage)

Scripture: Read Luke 14:15-24 as a group and consider the questions below.

Context: *Jesus goes to a fancy dinner at the home of one of the rulers of the Pharisees (religious leaders). He is eating with lawyers and religious leaders at this party and Jesus heals a man on the Sabbath which during that time should not have been done. Jesus then tells 2 parables to the fancy guests at the dinner party, both parables revolving around meals. Our verses today are the second parable he tells.*

¹⁵ 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!" ¹⁶But Jesus said to him, "A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. ¹⁷And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come for everything is now ready.' ¹⁸But 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.' ¹⁹And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.' ²⁰And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' ²¹So 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.' ²²And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' ²³And 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. ²⁴For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.'"



Digging Deeper:

- In the parable that Jesus shares, who might He be referring to as “the master”? Who might Jesus be referring to as the ones who made excuses?
- In the parable that Jesus is sharing, what do you think about the excuses being made by the guests invited to the great banquet? How did the master feel about them?
- How does the banquet host in the story fill the banquet? What do you think Jesus is trying to say to the religious leaders and lawyers at the dinner party He was attending?
- When looking at the difference between those making the excuses in the parable and those that ended up filling the banquet (the poor, the crippled, blind, lame, and those out on the highways and hedges), what does this say about us today? What does this say about people in general? (Hint: Those who filled the banquet knew they were in need of something and recognized their need, those who made excuses were seemingly wealthy and didn’t have much need. Today, especially where we live, not many are readily admitting their brokenness and their need for a greater Savior).

Application:

- In the story we see that some preferred land over God, some cows over God, and some preferred wives over God. What are some excuses we make today to not say “Yes” to Jesus? What are some things we prefer over God, or, what is one thing that keeps you from saying, “Yes” to Jesus?
- How do our excuses hinder us from experiencing all that God wants us to experience in Him? How can we overcome these excuses?
- As followers of Jesus, what does this banquet story say to us? In the story, if the master is commanding his servant to compel people to come to the banquet with no favoritism shown to any certain type or class of people, how does this speak to us today and what can we learn from this? How does the word “compel” speak to the type of invitation we should be giving? (Answer: there should be a sense of urgency!)

Closing activity & prayer: choose 1 of the following options to close your time together.

- SINGING: [Christ Is Enough](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E3de6SKokE4) by Hillsong Worship <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E3de6SKokE4>
- JOURNALING: Take some time to be very honest with yourself and with God. Write out 1 or 2 excuses you have made, or currently are making that cause you to not say, “Yes” to Jesus. Then take some time and write out a prayer asking God to help you overcome those excuses, and embrace a life that says, “Yes” to Jesus!
- SCRIPTURE: Meditate on, memorize, and make this verse your prayer: **Isaiah 6:8**
 - *“And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”*
- PRAYING: Close your group time in prayer for one another. Share prayer requests and assign partners to pray for one another throughout the week.