

“O Lord, It’s Hard to Be Humble”

Based on Luke 14:1, 7-11 (NIV)

Rev. Roger Madden, preaching
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Luke 14:1 - One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched.

† **Jesus is in the home of a "prominent Pharisee", which translates to "a ruler of the Pharisees."**

† **Luke is showing that all Pharisees are not alike.**

Luke 14:7-10

7 When Jesus noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable:

8 "When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited.

9 If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, 'Give this man your seat.' Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place.

10 But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, 'Friend, move up to a better place.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all your fellow guests.

† **Jesus is telling the people not to rush for the best places at a feast.**

† **In Jesus’ day, if someone took a seat near the family, which would mean closest to the middle of the table, they could be asked by the host to move if people more intimate with the family arrived.**

Luke 14:11 - For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

† **Jesus’ point is that in life, I am to be humble or I will be humbled.**

† **Being humble is an honest knowledge of myself, an acceptance of my true self, of who God created me to be and being proud of that.**

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† **As a Christian, I am to recognize that my strength, talents, and virtue come from God.**

† **I am to work, and live, not for my glory but for “the Glory of God.”**

Applying Today’s Message to My Life:

† When have I been humiliated?

† Whom do I try to impress?

† What do I see in myself?

† Do I work for something more than money or position or professional standing?

† This week, what is one way I can be more humble and look to lift up God’s glory and not my own glory?