

**Luke 14 1-14 – be a bold, but humble, follower of Jesus**

**Ideas for SS classes, small groups, etc.**

**P**ray together, **R**elate to each other, **E**at together, **S**tudy together, **S**erve together

**PRESS** on toward the goal of growing in Jesus!

**General outside activity** – Play “HIDE AND SEEK”. Do you know that there were times in Jesus’ life that he needed time all to himself and he would get away from everyone else to be alone? He probably felt like hiding because so many people always wanted to be near him. BUT, there were also times when Jesus did things just to get people’s attention and to make them think about God and about how love people. What do you do to get someone’s attention? (Let everyone share.) Today’s story is about a time when Jesus didn’t hide. Instead He did something to get people’s attention so that He could teach them about God and about serving others.

**Luke Team Memory Verse – 1 John 3:16-18** - What better way to demonstrate teamwork and the results it can bring than to do our memory verse for the Luke series as a team? The concept is that each week a leader cuts apart each line of the memory verse and hands each section to a member of their group/class. Each person is to memorize their section of the verse and know where it goes. If you rotate parts, by family or person, then you might all learn the whole verse before the sessions are over.

**Eat together** – Rotate through families/people to bring some form of food to share. If you need adult time, ask the kids to prepare and serve the food. If you need kids’ time, ask some of the adults to prepare and serve the food. Food could also be prepared and served by the family/people that brought the food.

**Pray together** – PRAISE – thank God for who He is; REPENT – Ask God to forgive and help us; ASK – Ask God for things that others need; Ask God for things that you need; YIELD – Tell God that you trust HIM with whatever He provides and with whatever He has planned. Thank Him that you can trust His love.

**Study together**

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**Vs 1-6**

Vs 1 –

**Family Activities:** As the session begins, give everyone a popsicle stick (or other such item, perhaps a rock that they have found) to hold in their hand. If they ever set the item down, whoever wants to can pick it up and keep it. BUT if they then set it down, then someone else can pick it up. Perhaps you can give a prize or a special treat to the person who has the most items at the end of your session. What does it feel like to be watched all the time? Have you ever felt like that?

**Adult Questions:**

Jesus did not shrink from public display. Why not? Do you shrink from public display? Why/why not?

Vs 2-6 –

**Family Activities:** What’s the hardest question that you have ever been asked? How did you respond to the hard question that you were asked? Jesus asked a hard question to get everyone’s attention. It was a question that made people uncomfortable because of the rules that they had made that were supposed to honor God. Jesus wanted them to know that we do honor God when we help people. We know that Jesus made them uncomfortable because they were silent. They didn’t know how to answer Jesus’ question.

Jesus often asked questions to help people understand things. It would be good for to practice asking questions this week. Questions, and listening for the answers, help us to understand things. Let’s make a doorknob knocker with a big question mark on it. Each night this week bring your doorknob knocker to the dinner table, along with a question that you want to ask. Keep your doorknob knocker on your door handle to remind you to think of a good question.

**Adult Questions:**

Was this a “set-up” by the Pharisees?

What did Jesus do?

How did Jesus dispel their anger?

How do you handle those who don't agree with what you are doing? How does your way compare with the way Jesus handles the Pharisees?

**Vs 7-11**

**Family Activities:** Play musical chairs or London Bridge is falling down. These are games that have us trying to get into or out of a special place. It can be great fun to be special! But what happens when you are in the special place and it is not your place? Jesus told a story that went like this: (Talk through the story and have the kids take various places and then move them around.) We are all special, but humility is letting others say that you are special.

**Adult Questions:**

Where do you go that you have to select a seat? Why do you choose the seat that you do?

What does it feel like to be humiliated? Do you have an example to share?

What does it feel like to be honored? Do you have an example to share?

**Vs 12-14**

**Family Activities:** Who do you invite to your house? Is it always the same people? Jesus says we should be doing things for people we don't know because then we are generous. Together, plan a special deed for someone that you don't know. (A mailman, a store clerk, a school cafeteria worker, etc.)

**Adult Questions:**

What does Jesus say about the “clique” or “club” mentality?

What does this passage say about generosity? About loving your enemy?

What do you do with/for those who are not able to return your favor?