

What has been your experience with people with special needs?

How do you respond to this statement from a parent: "I don't think the worst thing that could happen to me is raising a child with special needs. I think the worst thing is to raise a child who is cruel to those with special needs."?

Children with special needs are at a 63% greater risk than their peers of being bullied.

Have you seen people with special needs being bullied?

Why do people mock, tease, bully people with special needs?

Have you ever:

_____ been bullied as a person with special needs

_____ bullied

_____ defended someone who was being bullied?

If you haven't done so yet, read the passage: Luke 14:12-24.

Zoom in on the invitation list in verses 13 and 21.

How do you think the host and guests felt about Jesus' statement?

What does Jesus' guest list tell you about Jesus? About those who follow Jesus?

The people-groups on Jesus' guest list were denied, by law, from entering into God's presence (Leviticus 21:17-23).

What do you think about Jesus reversing that law?

These people-groups represent those on the furthest margins of society, yet they are the folks who are invited to God's table.

What does that say to us about how we treat, or should treat, people.

Jesus often uses stories to subvert the authority figures and bring hope to the marginalized.

Does this passage bring you comfort and hope or does it disturb you?

Contemplate upon these words of Gandhi:

"No culture can live if it attempts to be exclusive."