

Welcome to the New Year! As we make our plans for the year ahead, it is important to remember that God has a plan. He has a plan for you, your family, and also for this world. This year let us prayerfully consider how we can keep his plans at the center of ours.

Sermon Outline:

Luke 14:16-24 (Gods Mission)

Who is Jesus talking to? Jesus is speaking with religious leaders. They knew the scriptures and claimed to love God, yet, they had somehow missed God's heart for the lost.

What is the grand narrative? God created a world that was very good (Genesis 1:31). That is not the world we live in since ...

1) Sin disrupted everything

Sin not only disrupted the relationship between God and man, it also disrupted all of creation ... resulting in the fractured world we see around us.

2) God had a plan to redeem everything.

Before God created the earth, He had a plan to save his people, and his creation. His redemption plan unfolds every time a person puts their faith in Christ and enters back into relationship with God. It will culminate one day in the restoration of all things.

God's mission is to seek and save that which was lost.

In this parable we discover something about the heart of God as he invites everyone who will come to his banquet.

May we be a church that never loses sight of the people (inside & outside our family) whom God loves.

Conclusion: Will you prayerfully consider how His plan for the world can find its way into your plans for 2017?

Suggested Discussion Questions:

- Do you have any New Years resolutions for 2017?
- How will you succeed in accomplishing them?
- Why is it important to remember that the world God created has been fractured by sin? How does this understanding help us to interpret the world around us?
- How do you think God will reach out to the people of Peterborough in 2017?
- What part can you play? What part can we play (as a church family / small group)?
- Is there one person you can pray for, share your faith with, invite to church – this year?
- Pray together.

Additional Reading / Devotions:

- The Great Commission (Matt. 28:16-20)
- Gods heart for the lost (Luke 15)