

# Surprising or Expected?

Luke 14:1, 7-14 relates the account of Jesus' teaching at a certain dinner party. Read these verses carefully, then reflect on the statements below that help summarize the account. For each statement, mark whether it seems surprising (S) to you or whether the statement is one you would have expected (E).

There are no right or wrong answers. What is important is that you can explain why you marked each statement as you did.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Jesus gave this teaching while dining at the home of a prominent Pharisee.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Apparently, religious leaders were carefully observing Jesus during this dinner, presumably to find fault with what he would do or say.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Even in Jesus' day, having a prime seat at an event was a mark of importance.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Jesus told his followers not to seek positions of status.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Although the guests could choose where they would sit at the table, the host had the right to move them to where he felt they truly belonged.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. As important as we think we are, there are probably people who are more important.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. It is embarrassing when we are caught pretending that we are more important than we really are.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. When we are humble, we give others the opportunity to praise us.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Jesus' teaching here is identified as a *parable*.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. When we invite someone to dinner, it is to be expected that that person will return the favor at some later time.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. If we truly want to be generous, we should give to those who do not have the means to repay us.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. When we give to those who cannot repay, God himself will repay us when our lives are over.