On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him close-ly....

When he noticed how the guests chose the plac-es of hon-or, he told them a par-able.

“When you are in-vit-ed by some-one to a wed-ding ban-quet, do not sit down at the place of hon-or, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this per-son your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the low-est place.

But when you are in-vit-ed, go and sit down at the low-est place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend,
move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you.

11 For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

12 He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a lunch-eon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. 13 But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. 14 And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

℣ The Gospel of the Lord.℟ Praise to you, Lord Christ.