Humility and Feasting
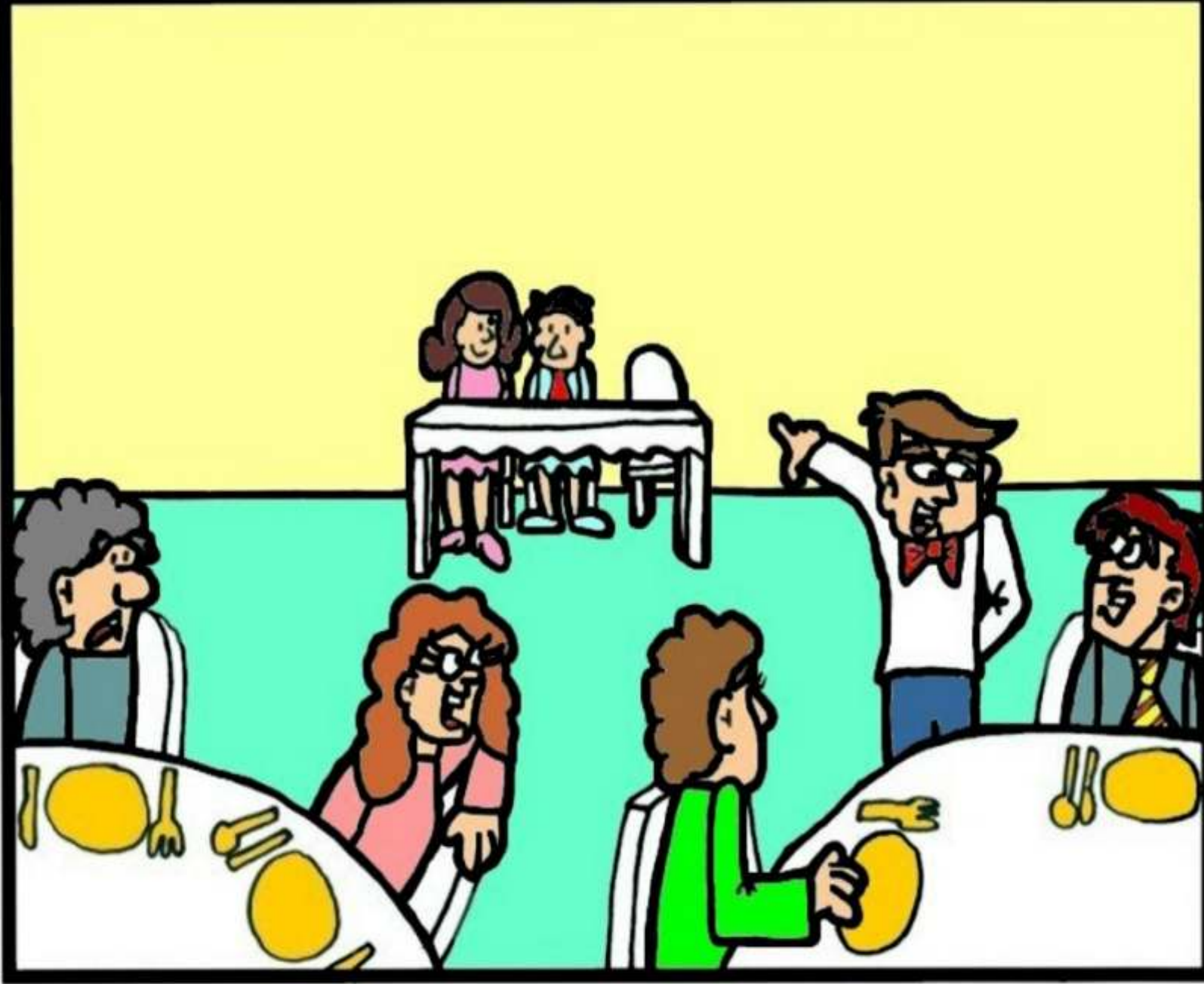
(Based on Luke 14:7-24)

57-01

One day Jesus was invited to a feast. He watched people selfishly taking the best seats. Then he said to the people, "When you are invited to a wedding reception, don't go and sit in the VIP (very important people) seats.
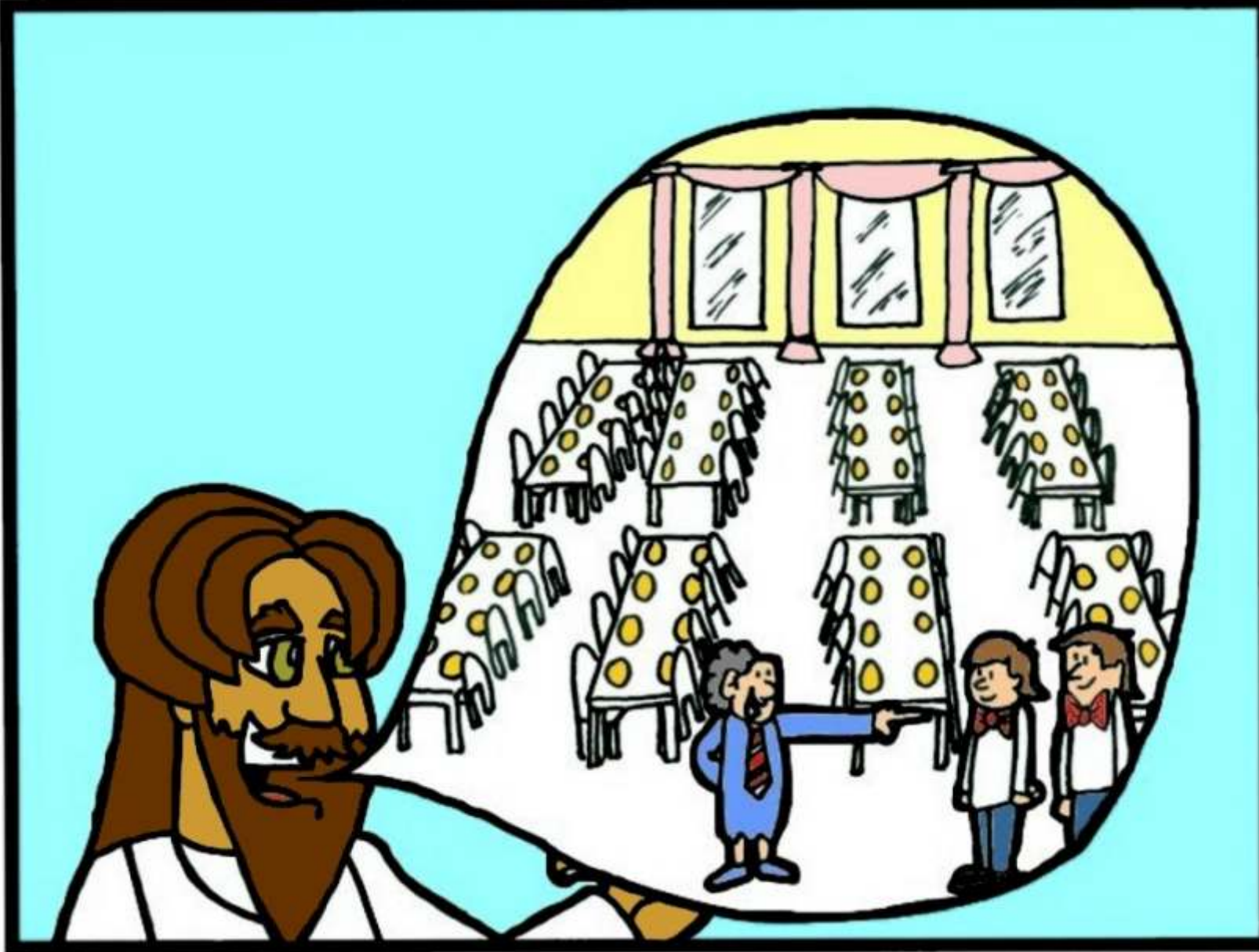
Someone might come and say you are sitting in a very important person's seat and then you will feel very embarrassed when you have to go and sit in a regular seat.

When you arrive, go and sit in a regular seat. If they want you to come and sit in a VIP seat, they'll come and get you. Then everybody will think you are a very special person."

Jesus said to the person who invited him, "When you make a special supper, don't invite your friends, your family or your rich neighbours. Invite the poor, crippled and blind people because they can't pay you back. God will pay you back."

Then someone said, "Happy is the person who gets to eat bread in Heaven." Jesus answered, "A man made a big supper and he invited many people. When the supper was ready he sent out his servants to tell them the meal was ready.

Everyone began to make excuses. The first person said, 'I have bought a field and I have to go and see it. Please let me be excused.'
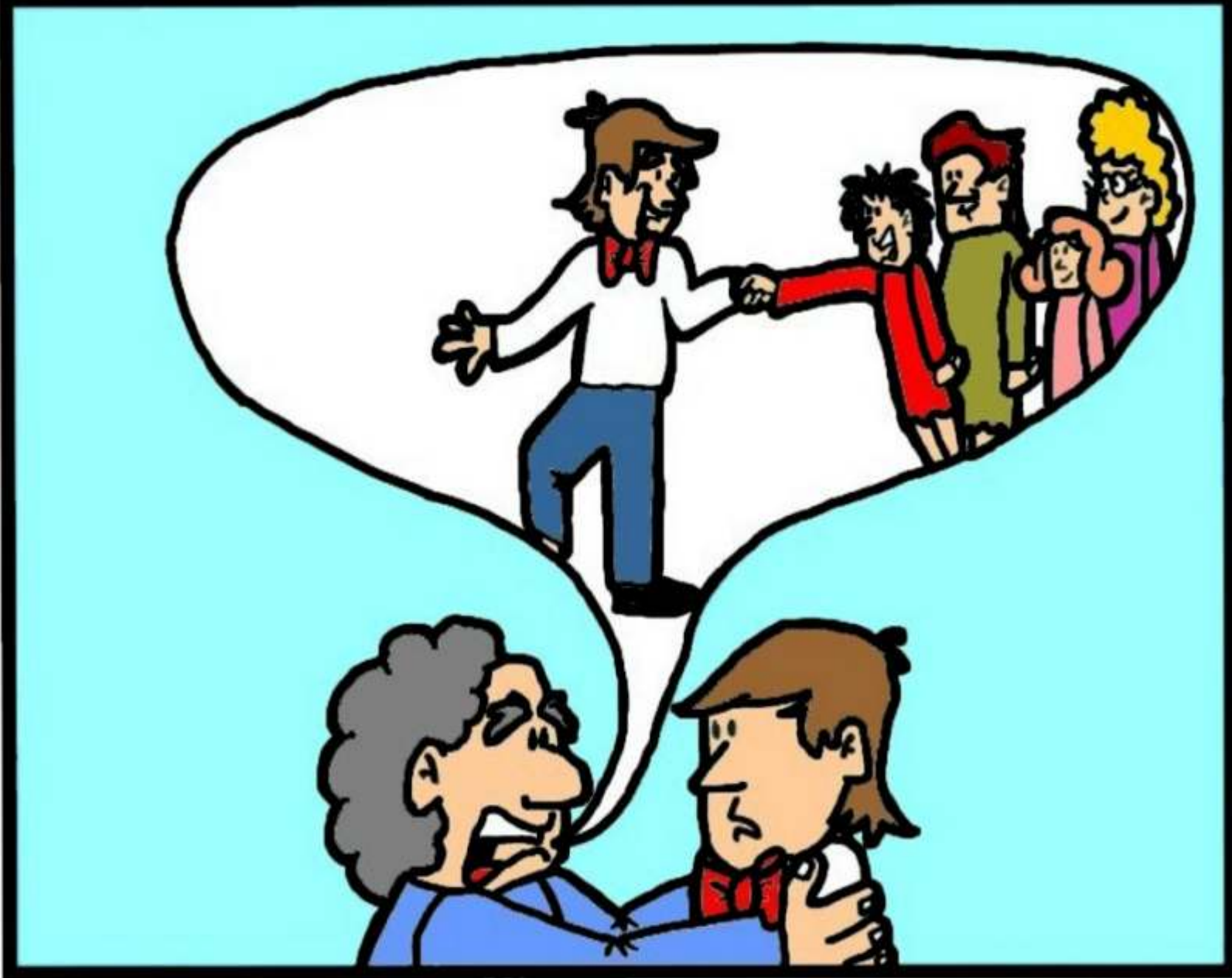
57-07

Another person said, 'I have brought five yoke of oxen and I have to go and try them out. Please have me excused.'

Another said, 'I have married a wife and this is why I can't come.'

57-09

When the master heard the excuses he was very angry. 'Go into the streets of the city and bring the poor, injured, crippled and blind.' The servant obeyed and said, 'Master there is still more room.'

'Go out into the highways and put pressure on them to come so that my house may be full of people. I tell you none of those people that I invited will taste my supper,' said the Master."

Lord, I want to eat at your feast in heaven. Help me never to make excuses when you call me to do something.