



FAITH AT HOME

Aldersgate Church ~ St. Louis Park, MN

Week of March 12, 2023: Matthew 22:1-14

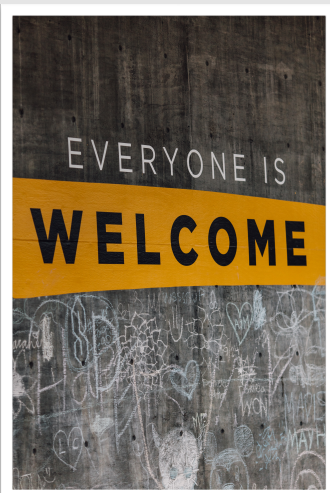
Memory Verse

Matthew 22:14: *"For many are called, but few are chosen."*



Family Prayer

Dear God, Thank you for inviting us to be part of your Kingdom. Help us to be ready. Help us to not make excuses about why we cannot do your will. Amen.



The Story

Theme of the story: You are invited! God is inviting us to God's kingdom. We need to accept the invitation.

Have any of you ever been to a wedding? Sometimes weddings are small and simple, and sometimes they are really big and fancy, but they are always special.

Jesus told a story about a wedding. The father of the boy getting married was a king! The king sent invitations to all of the most important people of the land and started getting everything ready. On the day of the wedding, the king's servants cooked many meals and covered the tables with huge cakes. Other servants took wagons and went out to get all of the people who had been invited to give them a ride to the wedding. But something happened. When the servants went to get the people who had been invited, those people said they did not want to go.



When the king heard what happened he was really angry. The king told his servants to go out in the streets and invite everyone they could find to come to the wedding. The king didn't care if the people weren't important, or if they were rich, or poor, or

Activity: Dress-Up

Play dress-up. Suggest choices such as dressing up as a king or a wedding guest. What would you wear? Get creative!

Craft: You Are Invited

You will need: cardstock or heavy paper, markers or crayons, stickers

Make an invitation to God's party. Use your imagination and add pictures to the lines below.

Who: Everyone

When: Everyday

Where: Everywhere

Why: Because God loves you



*(Selected content used & adapted
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clean, or dirty. He invited them all to come to his son's wedding to enjoy the feast.

When the wedding started, all of those people came. But, when the king saw one of the men who *had* been invited, the king became furious. The king yelled, "How did *you* get in here?" and he had his servants throw the man out. Why?

The story says that the man was thrown out because he did not wear proper wedding clothes. Some people think that means the man was so poor he didn't have nice clothes to wear, but a lot of the guests were too poor to have nice clothes. Instead, this is what some people think may have happened:

In Jesus' day, instead of guests bringing gifts for the couple getting married, the couple gave gifts to the guests who came to the wedding. Because the king knew that some of the guests did not have fancy clothes, the king gave the guests very expensive clothes to wear to the wedding. Everyone came to the wedding wearing the new wedding clothes except that one man. Why do you think the king was so angry? Since the man did not wear the special gift, he was telling the king that he did not think the wedding was special. He would be happy to come to the party and eat the king's food, but he didn't care about the wedding or care about the king.

Jesus was reminding us that we are like those people in the street who got the invitations. God didn't invite us to be here because we are rich, or powerful, or more important than anyone else. God invited us to be here because God wants us to know that we are special because God created us. God invited us and we can accept the invitation or reject it.

Family discussion: Who is the king (God) and who is the son (Jesus)? God has invited us but people make excuses. Have you ever made up an excuse not to go to a party? What are some excuses people make for not doing what God wants us to do?