

The Parable of the Great Feast

Luke 14:15-24; Christ's Object Lessons, pp. 219-237

Jesus told a story once about someone who had prepared a great feast. When the feast was ready, he sent to call the guests. Read on to find out what happened and what it could mean for us.

Once Jesus and His disciples were having a meal at someone's house, and Jesus told this story.

"A man gave a big banquet and invited many people," Jesus began. "When it was time to eat, the man sent his servant to tell the guests, 'Come! Everything is ready!'"

"But all the guests said they could not come. Each man made an excuse. The first

one said, 'I have just bought a field, and I must go look at it. Please excuse me.'

"Another man said, 'I have just bought five pairs of oxen; I must go try them. Please excuse me.'

"A third man said, 'I just got married; I can't come.'

"So the servant returned. He told his master what had happened.

"Then the master became angry and said, 'Go at once into the streets and alleys of the town. Bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.' Later the servant said to him, 'Master, I did what you told me to do, but we still have places for more people.'

"The master said to the servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes. Tell the people there to come. I want my house to be full! None of those men that I invited first will ever eat with me!'"

Jesus was talking about Himself in this parable. He is like the man who planned the party and invited many people. Jesus



The Message

Jesus invites us to be
with Him in heaven.

Memory Verse

“Blessed is the
one who will eat
at the feast in the
kingdom of God”

(Luke 14:15).

has invited everyone to accept His salvation, which leads to eternal life. And He's giving you an invitation! Many people in the story had excuses for not coming to the party. They let other things become more important than being with their friend. They weren't really true friends at all. Because they were too busy with things, they turned down the invitation and missed the great feast!

In this parable the invitation to the banquet is Jesus' invitation for us to accept His salvation. Accepting salvation means that we ask Jesus to forgive our sins and choose to do the things He wants us to do. We have a choice. We can decide to accept His invitation or to let other things become more important in our lives. How about you? Right now, will you say yes to the invitation Jesus has given you? Do you want to be with Him in heaven and experience the joy of being in His presence forever?





S A B B A T H

DO If possible, go with your family to a place where fruit grows. Find a quiet spot and read your lesson story together. Then read Revelation 22:1, 2 to find out about a special fruit tree in heaven. Who will enjoy the great feast in heaven? Who will eat from the special tree?

DO Teach your family the memory verse.

S U N D A Y

DO Give the invitation you made in Sabbath School to someone and tell them the Bible story. Let them know that God's invitation is for them too. (Or make an invitation now. Write the memory verse and message on the front. Inside, write, "Let's plan to meet at the party.")

DO Write your memory verse on a paper plate. Use it to review the verse with your family this week.

M O N D A Y

READ With your family, read and discuss Luke 14:1-15. Where was Jesus at this time? What was He doing there? Why do you think He talked about inviting people to dinner?

DO Luke 14:1-15 tells what happened before Jesus told the parable of the great feast. Have someone help you find the word *parable* in a dictionary. Talk about its meaning. Why did Jesus use parables to teach lessons?

PRAY Thank Jesus for His parables that help us understand His Word.



T U E S D A Y

READ During worship, read and discuss Luke 14:15-24. Whom does the servant represent? Whom does the master represent? Who are the people who refuse to come to the feast? Who are those who come? How is the invitation to the great feast like Jesus' invitation to us today?

SING Sing about Jesus' coming to earth again. Then thank Him for His promise to do so. Ask Him to help you and your family to be ready when He comes.

W E D N E S D A Y

READ For worship today, read Matthew 22:1-14 with your family. How is this story similar to the one in your lesson this week? Now read Revelation 19:6-9. Who is the Lamb? Who is the Lamb's bride? When will this wedding supper take place?

DRAW Draw a picture of the Lamb's wedding supper. Put yourself and your family at the table. Show it to your family. Keep the picture to remind you to pray for your family.

THURSDAY

READ

With your family, read Revelation 19:6-9. Ask your parents or grandparents about their wedding. Did they have a wedding feast? If possible, look at their wedding pictures. Compare their wedding to the wedding feast of the Lamb in heaven. What might keep you from the Lamb's wedding supper? How can you get ready to be there?

DO

Sing songs about heaven, then thank God for His promises. Ask Jesus to help you and your family be ready to live with Him forever.



FRIDAY

SHARE

Share some fruit as you act out your lesson story with your family. Be the servant who invites and then reminds people to come to the great feast.

READ

Ask someone to read Revelation 21 and Revelation 22:1-5. How is heaven different from where you live? What will you eat at Jesus' great feast in heaven?

SING

Before prayer, sing "I Want to Be Ready" (Sing for Joy, no. 127). Ask Jesus to help you and your family to be ready when He comes.

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PUZZLE

Directions: What belongs on Jesus' banquet table? Draw a line from the objects to the banquet table.

