

The Parable of the Wedding Banquet - Matthew 22:1-14

Topics: Ambassadors, Apathy, Attitude, Celebration, Evil, Excuses, Grace, Hardheartedness, Hell, Indifference, Kingdom of God/Heaven, Marriage, Murder, Opposition, Punishment, Rejection, Sorrow, Unbelievers

Open It

- * 1. What do you like or dislike about weddings?
- 2. What tips might you give to someone planning a big wedding?
- 3. What is your funniest wedding story?
- 4. How do you tend to react when long-awaited plans fail to materialize?

Explore It

- 5. What preparations were being made in this parable? (22:2)
- 6. What did the king send his servants to do? (22:3)
- * 7. How did people respond to the king's invitation? (22:3)
- 8. Upon hearing that no one would come to the wedding, what did the king do? (22:4)
- * 9. How did the invited guests react to the king's second appeal? (22:5)
- 10. To what shocking acts did some of the people who were invited resort? (22:6)
- 11. How did the king deal with the lawbreakers? (22:7)
- 12. The king went to a "Plan B" that included what changes? (22:8-9)
- 13. How did the king's alternative plan work out? (22:10)
- 14. What did the king say when he spotted an improperly dressed wedding guest? (22:11)
- 15. What did the king order his servants to do with the man who was improperly dressed? (22:11-13)
- * 16. Why did the king throw out the unwelcome wedding guest? (22:13-14)

Get It

- 17. What keeps people from accepting Jesus' offer of eternal life?
- 18. The wedding clothes in the parable that were needed for admittance to the banquet are meant to symbolize what quality that is necessary for entry into the kingdom of heaven?
- 19. What events led to your acceptance of Jesus' offer of forgiveness and heaven?
- 20. For what reason are there impostors in the church?
- 21. Why would a non-Christian want to be around Christians?
- 22. How does God demonstrate His patience to unbelievers?
- * 23. What will happen to those who either reject Christ or try to enter His kingdom on their own terms?
- * 24. In what area(s) of your life have you been putting off a response to what God has asked you to do?

Apply It

- * 25. What response should you give to God this week?
- 26. To what individuals this week can you extend Jesus' offer of forgiveness and eternal life?