

Sermon Questions: Parable of the Wedding Feast

Matthew 22:1-14

1. Describe the most impressive celebration you ever attended. How would you react if you were invited to a wedding for the son of a king or ruler of society?
2. What's the mood of this parable? Does it suggest anything about Jesus's mood when he told it?
3. Jesus begins the story by equating the Kingdom of Heaven to a wedding banquet. How does Pam describe wedding celebrations in those days of Jewish life? What does this tell us about the Kingdom of Heaven?
4. In verse 9, the king instructs his servants saying, "Go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find." The servants do, and they fill the wedding hall. If the wedding represents God's kingdom, what kind of people are invited to God's kingdom according to this this verse?
5. While the invitation to the banquet is extended to all, something was required of guests in order to attend the banquet. What was it (verses 11, 12)?
6. Wearing a wedding robe identified guests as being morally right and a follower of God. One guest refused to wear the wedding robe. Pam suggests perhaps being identified as being morally right and a follower of God felt "too tight" for him. Do you ever feel this way? How do we sometimes resist "wearing the wedding robe" in our own lives?
7. Jesus concludes the telling of his parable with, "For many are invited, but few are chosen" (verse 14). What must we do in order to be one of the chosen?
8. God extends his invitation to us as a free gift. He offers His grace, forgiveness of sins and everlasting life out of His unconditional love for you. Because God created us with free will, we have the free will to say "yes," or "no" to God, or simply pay no attention to Him. In what ways do your thoughts, words and actions say "yes" to God? In what ways do your thoughts, words and actions say "no"? How often do you simply pay no attention to God?
9. What struggles in your life do you fail to overcome on your own? What keeps you from accepting God's grace and forgiveness and allowing Him to carry the burden with you and for you? How could your life be different if those struggles were lifted for you?