

Teacher's Lesson for children

Life of Christ

A story about a Wedding

Matthew 22:1-10

Younger Verse

Love the Lord your God with all your heart. Matthew 22:37

Older Verse

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. Matthew 22:37

Welcome Time

Have you ever been to a wedding? There are many different ways that people celebrate. Let's listen to a story that Jesus told about a wedding.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Jesus liked to tell lots of stories. He told them to help the people learn a lesson. The stories were called parables. When the people heard them, they knew that Jesus wanted them to understand something through the story.

One day, Jesus told a story about God's kingdom in Heaven. The story was about a very special banquet. Back in Jesus' time, when a couple got married, it was a gigantic party. People were invited from everywhere AND they celebrated for a WEEK! It was a very special time to honor the couple that just got married.

Remember, back in Jesus' time, they did not have a postman that delivered mail to people. To get messages to people, they would send messengers to give a note to someone.

The king's son was getting married. So the king wanted to have a huge feast or banquet for his son and new daughter-in-law. He asked his servant to give invitations to many people about the special feast.

Instead of coming to the wonderful feast, all the people stayed at home. Can you believe it? They did not come to the party!

The king was very upset. He could not believe that his friends were so rude and impolite. This upset the man so much that he decided to invite other people to his fabulous party.

Did the king give up or cancel the banquet? NO! He got his servants to go into the streets and invite anyone and everyone that they saw. The servants invited both good people and bad people to the wonderful banquet.

Sure enough, the room was filled with guests!

Teachers:
There is a graphic part in the lesson that should be omitted for smaller children (the servant is killed and then the father has the people killed).

Lesson Goals

Share how Jesus wants us to be ready when He comes back one day
Explain how God wants all people to come and believe in Him

What was Jesus trying to say by telling this story? It seems like a puzzle until you think about the people who were listening to the story.

Jesus was telling his story to people who had gone far from God. These people were called the Pharisees. They were proud people who tried to look religious on the outside, but underneath, in their hearts, they were only trying to look good to others. They only loved themselves.

These Pharisees were like the first group of people who were invited to the banquet. God loved them and wanted them to love Him with all their heart. Instead of coming to God (like coming to the banquet), they chose to stay away.

The second group of people were people whom the Pharisees looked down on. They would act like they were better or more important than these people.

Unlike the Pharisees, God loved these people and cared for them. He saw how they really loved Him and they were not proud or rude.

These people were the second group that the father (God) invited to the party in Heaven. You see, the Pharisees thought that they were the only ones who could come to God. In this story, Jesus is telling them that God loves ALL people and He wants ALL people to come to His party in Heaven.

Remember the king did not give up on the banquet. In the same way, God did not give up on us! He loves us and wants us to go to Heaven one day. How do we get to Heaven? We have to believe that Jesus died and came back to life. We must know that Jesus died for the wrongs we have done. We must tell Jesus we are sorry for our sins and ask Him to forgive us. Then, we must ask Jesus to come into our heart and help us live for God in all we do. Jesus promises to stay with us forever and take us to Heaven one day. If you want to know more about Jesus, talk to us anytime about it.

Learning Activities

There are fun “wedding” activities to help the kids remember the lesson

Memory Verse Activities

There are several songs to sing this verse and help the kids remember it.

Prayer Time

Ask God to help us love Him with all our heart.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Serve snacks after everything is cleaned up. One fun idea is a mock “wedding” cake!

Planning for November 2nd
The Greatest Command
Matthew 22:34-40

Preschool Lesson
For
Wedding Banquet

One day, Jesus told a story to people who were listening.

Once upon a time, there was a king. He had a son that was getting married to a beautiful girl. The king was so excited that he wanted to have a wonderful dinner to celebrate the new married couple.

The king sent out invitations to all his friends. He told them that a delicious banquet or party was going to be held to celebrate. The messenger told the friends some of the delicious food that would be on the tables. It sounded like a huge feast.

When it came time for the celebration, no one came. Can you believe it? The king waited and waited for his friends to come, but no one showed up. The king was very, very sad.

Instead of giving up, the king sent his messengers to go and find other people to come and celebrate. The messengers went all over town and invited all kinds of people to come. It was so exciting. The messengers invited everyone they saw to the feast.

Sure enough, everyone came and the room was filled with people. They all enjoyed the party and ate all the delicious food.

Jesus told this story to help us see that God loves everyone and wants all people to love Him. One day, there will be a big banquet in heaven and God wants us all to be there to celebrate!

Pray and Sing “Come and Go with Me.”

Hands-on Activities
For
The Wedding Banquet

Try this object lesson to help the kids see the difference of being real and loving Jesus and just “acting” like you love him when we come to church. Bring one real flower and one fake silk flower (or plastic flower). Ask the kids which flower is real. Describe the differences in the flowers. Explain how real Christians are like the real flower. Share how we should be like the real flower; we are real all the time and love God everywhere we go. (courtesy of Kids Sunday School web site)

Make bouquets of flowers out of tissue or tissue paper.

Have a mock wedding service (if the kids will cooperate). Let the kids hum the traditional wedding song and have fun walking down the aisle.

Make “wedding” invitations using silver or gold gel pens. Invite people to church.

Bring plastic rings for everyone or make them out of embroidery thread.

Blow bubbles like is often done at weddings.