

Faith-N-Focus Theme: The Parables of Jesus

Lesson: The Guests of the Wedding

for Young Disciples

Lesson Text: Luke 14: 7-11

Date: September 1, 2013

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Luke 14: 7-11

Lesson Objective: The student will learn to choose to be humble.

Materials: Bible, paper, crayons

Memory Verse: "God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble." (James 4:6).

Lesson Summary

Jesus was invited to eat at the home of one of the chief Pharisees on the Sabbath Day. Jesus watched and saw how the other invited guests were scrambling to be the first to sit in the most popular seats. Jesus then told them a story to teach them a lesson about humbleness. In this story, there was a wedding and guests were invited to attend. Jesus taught that it is better for the guests to choose to sit in the unpopular seats. Then, if they are asked to move to a popular seat, they and everyone around them will be happy. But, if the guests chose to sit in the popular seats and are asked to move to the unpopular seats, they will be embarrassed and ashamed. Jesus wants us to see that when we put ourselves in places of honor and think of ourselves as more important than others, we have a proud spirit. The bible says, "God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble". (James 4:6)

Bible Point:

**I choose
to
be humble.**



Ideas to Illuminate:

1. Using a piece of paper and crayons, have each child make a placemat with the bible verse on it. Keep them in the classroom to use for the next several lessons.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Which guest had a proud spirit?
2. Which guest had a humble spirit?
3. Do you think sitting by the most important people makes you important?
4. Is humbleness sitting in the unpopular seat and looking sad?



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Teacher Preparation

Readings: Mt 22:2-9; Acts 13:46

Lesson Objective: The student will learn to accept the call of God.

Materials: Bible, party decorations (keep decorations for next week), invitations, special snack, placemats from last week, paper, crayons

Memory Verse: "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13).

Lesson Summary

In the parable of the Wedding Banquet, Jesus is teaching us that we must accept the invitation to salvation that has been provided. There are three invitations to salvation spoken of in this story. All three unfold to reveal the call God has sent out to gather His people; and the great lengths He has gone thru to reach the lost souls. The first invitation was delivered to the Israelites by the prophets and Jesus. Israel did not accept the invitation and did not turn their hearts toward God. The second invitation was delivered to the Israelites by the disciples after Jesus was crucified. It included the message, "all things are ready". Israel still did not turn their hearts towards God. Some had business interests that were more important to them. Some even killed God's servants for delivering the invitation. The third invitation has been given and continues to go out today; being delivered by followers of Christ. The invitation is no longer just for Israel, but now for everyone who will accept it. "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13).

Bible Point:
**I will accept
the call of
God and be
saved.**



Ideas to Illuminate:

1. Decorate the room for a party. When the children come in tell them you are expecting some very special guests. Have the RSVP invitations in your hand. After everyone sits down, read the RSVP notes to find out that everyone who was invited is too busy to come. Enjoy your special snack as you teach the lesson.
2. The children can make an Invitation to Salvation. (Ex)
To: Whosoever will
From: Jesus
For: Salvation and freedom from sin
Bring: Repentance

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What is the call of God?
2. Who is invited?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Mt 22:10-14; Eph 4:24; Col 3:10,12; Rev 3:4;19:8

Lesson Objective: The student will learn the necessity of purity.

Materials: Bible, white robes, decorations and placemats from previous lessons

Memory Verse: "And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness." (Eph 4:24).

Lesson Summary

The invitation to salvation is for everyone. It doesn't matter how you dress or how you behave before you receive the invitation. We were all once sinners and needed to repent and accept Jesus Christ as our Savior. Once we accept Him we are clothed in wedding garments and are worthy to enter into the kingdom of heaven. The wedding garment represents righteousness and holiness, which only come by the presence of God in our lives. In the parable of the wedding garment the Lord comes to see the guests who have accepted their invitation. He finds that all the guests have put on their wedding garments except one. This man has a rebellious spirit and thinks he can enter into the kingdom his own way. He has no intentions of being clothed in the appropriate garment. The Lord tells his servants to tie the man's hands and feet and throw him out into the darkness forever. He was not found worthy to enter. There is only one way to enter the kingdom of heaven and that is through Jesus Christ. When we accept Jesus into our hearts we put on the wedding garment which says, I am not my own; I am a new man clothed in God's righteousness and holiness.

Bible Point:

**I will be
clothed in
righteousness.**



Ideas to Illuminate:

1. Using your party decorations and placemats from the previous lessons, clothe all but one child in a white robe and act out the story from the lesson.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What does the wedding garment represent?
2. Who can wear the wedding garment?
3. Why was the man not clothed in the wedding garment?
4. What was he trying to do?
5. What is the only way to enter the kingdom of heaven?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Mt 18:12-13; Lk 15:4-7; 1 Pet 2:10,25; Lk 5:32

Lesson Objective: The student will learn to rejoice in recovering what was lost.

Materials: Bible, stuffed sheep, Adult shepherd costume, optional special snack

Memory Verse: "For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost." (Mt 18:11).

Lesson Summary

Jesus refers to lost souls as lost sheep. Before we are saved, we have no shepherd to protect us, and are in grave danger of the enemy. Jesus came to save all the lost sheep on earth. Every time a lost soul is saved, great rejoicing takes place in heaven. We, too, should always rejoice when we see someone give their heart to Jesus. As young disciples we can help Jesus find lost sheep by telling them about Jesus and what he's done for us.

Bible Point:

**I will rejoice
when what's
lost is found.**



Ideas to Illuminate:

1. Before class hide the stuffed sheep somewhere in the class. After you read the lesson have someone come in dressed like a shepherd who is looking for his lost sheep. The children can help the shepherd look for the lost sheep and celebrate with a special snack once the lost sheep is found.
2. Have the shepherd sit in the middle of the circle of children. Every child should put their hands behind their back and the shepherd should close his eyes. The leader places the stuffed sheep in one of the children's hands. The shepherd opens his eyes and has three chances to guess which child has the lost sheep.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Have you ever found a lost toy or something you really liked? How did it make you feel?
2. What does Jesus refer to as lost sheep?
3. What does it mean to be found?
4. Are you a lost sheep or a found sheep?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Luke 14:28-30

Lesson Objective: The student will learn to calculate the cost of following Jesus.

Materials: Bible, blocks or anything stackable

Memory Verse: "But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved." (Mt 24:13).

Lesson Summary

Think of yourself as a tower. After you are saved and begin to serve the Lord, the building process begins. You love the Lord for what He's done for you, and you read your bible and pray every day. God starts building walls on your strong foundation. He is in control of everything and has all the construction plans and materials needed to complete the work. During the building process you start to realize there are sacrifices to serving God. Your tower can't be completed unless you allow God to have complete control of your life. You must decide if you are willing to make the sacrifices needed to allow God to complete the work, no matter the cost. He is either Lord of all or He's not Lord at all.

Bible Point:
**Jesus is
worth it
all.**



Ideas to Illuminate:

1. Allow the children time to build a tower on their own. Then, give the children specific instructions on how to build a strong tower.
2. Take two plastic cups the same size and cut on in half. Pour water to the top of the whole cup to demonstrate a good, complete strong tower that can be used by the Lord. Pour the water from that cup into the half-cup and watch the water spill out to demonstrate how a half built tower is of no use to the Lord.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Have you given your heart to Jesus?
2. Are you willing to make sacrifices to follow Jesus?
3. Are you allowing Him to be in control of your life?