

Children's Church at Home 11 October 2020

Matthew 22:1-14 The Wedding Banquet

Craft ingredients: card, paper, pens, scissors, Pritt stick, a doily if you have one, maybe some kitchen foil, **OR** make a real wedding cake! Well, sort of. You could start with a plain biscuit or maybe a cupcake, and add butter icing, food colouring, marshmallows, cake decorations ...

Introduction: What's your favourite party food? When you get married, what type of wedding cake will you have? (Chocolate? Red Velvet? Fruit Cake? Something else? I'd love to know!)

Story: Matthew 22:1-14

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=matt+22%3A1-14&version=ERV>

Video: <https://youtu.be/v9tcG2R8cfQ> (which shows just what you can do with a whiteboard and some stick men!)

or https://youtu.be/C_GSfL1MfKU (good for reading along with)

Quiz: Is this a story about a funeral? Who is giving the party? Why? Who is invited? Why don't they go? (2 reasons) What happens to the people who go to invite them? Who ends up going to the party? What happens to the one who wasn't wearing the right clothes? (It was quite normal to have clothes ready for the guests to put on when they arrived. This person didn't bother)

Think: Why do you think the guests don't want to go to the party? Why do they treat the servants so badly? How do you think the ordinary people felt when they were invited? Why was one of them thrown out? God is inviting us to his party, the Kingdom of Heaven. Let's be kind to the messengers who come to invite us (who could that be, do you think?) and let's be ready ('put on the wedding clothes', by praying, reading the Bible and ... what else? **Hint:** see Colossians 3:12

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Colossians+3%3A12&version=ERV>)

Craft: make a wedding cake. If you like colouring, colour this invitation.

<https://ministry-to-children.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/YearA-18thSundayAfterPentecost-YoureInvited-ActivityPage.pdf>

Activity: play musical statues or an old-fashioned word game: I love my love with an A because he's Adorable. Next person says, I love my love with a B because she's Beautiful and so on.

Prayer: Father God, King of Heaven, we are just ordinary people, like the people in the story, but you have invited us to your party in Heaven and sent messengers to show us the way. Thank you! Forgive us when we don't pay attention to them and carry on doing what **we** want to do. And thank you for helping us to get things right. Amen.

The Grace: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. Amen.