

## APPLICATION

- As God is inviting you be part of His kingdom, would you like to accept His invitation? You may ask your group leader to help you as you decide to follow God from now on.

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- How do you think can you be better clothed for God's banquet starting today? What action steps can you commit to do by God's grace to live out a changed life? How can your group help you carry out your decision?

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- Who are the people around you whom you believe God is wanting you to invite to His kingdom? In the next few days, how can you extend God's invitation to them?

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## PRAYER

- Pray for God to constantly remind you that Jesus has clothed you with the garment of righteousness when you accepted His invitation. Pray that because of this, you will be more secure in Him and better live according to His ways.
- Ask God to give you the sensitivity and compassion towards the people whom He wants you to share His invitation. Pray for the courage and opportunity to be able to reach out to them.



# VICTORY

Honor God. Make Disciples.



WEEK 4

## The Banquet

## Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Text: \_\_\_\_\_

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## WARM-UP

- What was the grandest gathering you've ever attended? How did you feel when you learned you were invited to it?

## WORD

*Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: <sup>24</sup>“The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. <sup>3</sup>He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come.*

## Matthew 22:1-3

Jesus was painting a picture not only of how a gracious God desires to fill His kingdom with all kinds of people, but also of how He is being ignored and rejected by the very people that He has invited. Let us dig deeper to understand more what this parable says.

- **Rejecting God's invitation in any way has negative results** (Matthew 22:3-7).  
The parable represents God's invitation to accept that the only way to enter God's kingdom is to receive Jesus as Savior and Lord (John 14:6). The one who rejects this will not only be denied entry into His kingdom but will suffer destruction as well.
- **God is continuously inviting people** (Matthew 22: 9,10).  
God is graciously inviting people, both good and bad, to His kingdom (1 Timothy 2:4, Revelation 19:9). However, we must not delay in responding to His invitation, lest we forfeit it.
- **God's patience does not mean He is lowering His standards** (Matthew 22:11-14).  
Just as the king required his guests to dress properly so they will be fit for the feast, God wants us to be clothed with the garment of righteousness which He provided us through Jesus Christ, and live a changed life reflecting His character (Romans 13:14, Revelation 19:8).

***Accepting God's invitation means receiving Jesus' gift of salvation and allowing God to change us.***

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