

SPARK SUNDAY SCHOOL

ACTIVATE FAITH

UPPER ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION



Jesus Teaches: Parable of the Wedding Banquet

Lesson Focus: **God is Never too busy for Us**

Scripture Reference: **Matthew 22: 1-14**

Spark Story Bible Pg. 304

GATHER

Check In with your High & Low for today/this week.

In this lesson, we're going to hear about dancing and a big meal called a banquet.

Question: What kinds of foods do you like to eat at a big meal like a banquet?
What was the biggest, best party you've ever attended?

STORY

**Dear Jesus, Thank you for inviting me to your party!
Be with me, as I learn about you. Amen.**

Read the Parable of the Wedding Banquet told by Jesus. You can find this in the Spark Story Bible on Pg. 304-305 or look in the NRSV Matthew 22:1-14 or listen to the story online.

In our story, some of the guests did not come to the wedding banquet. Why? Luckily for us, God is never too busy! **God hears us every time we pray and listens anytime we want to talk.**

RESPOND

Draw a self portrait of yourself.

When you look at the completed piece, know that God is never too busy for you!

Invite your household to follow you in a "**Follow the Leader**" style **dance**. Pick one person to be the leader in front or at the front of the line (if you decide to do a parade) and pick a dance move for others to copy and follow. Create a streamer stick to add to your movements (side to side, spinning around, floor to ceiling, etc.). Pretend you're on the way to a wedding as you march around the room!

Check out the "Let's Dance" section of your worksheet (mailed to you) and learn about "Weddings from around the World" on the back page too.



MEMORY VERSE

Look up **Matthew 22:9** This is our Memory Verse for today.

Go therefore into the main streets and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet

SEND

Responding to God's Word

*These are ways God uses us to come back for others!
Sometimes the best way to come back is to go out!*

To: _____ From: _____ Date: _____

I want to:

- ___ Say yes to a request to help someone— even if you don't feel like it.
- ___ Ask an adult how he or she deals with the tough parts of Jesus' teachings
- ___ Interview someone (like a family member) to tell you about his or her wedding.
- ___ Mark a calendar with a special color every time your family spends time with God
- ___ Plan a family celebration this month
- ___ Create a funny dance
- ___ Write out the Memory Verse & doodle around it in your Faith Formation Journal
- ___ Write out the Memory Verse and place it somewhere you will see it often
- ___ Give you a big hug!
- ___ Invite you to worship with you (outside or online) or invite them to Sunday School with you
- ___ Pray for _____
- ___ Say "I'm sorry"
- ___ Read this story again in my Bible
- ___ My own idea: _____

PRAY

**Dear Jesus, you keep coming back for us.
Now teach us to go out for others! Amen!**