

SERMON NOTES & QUESTIONS



DATE: w/c 12th Nov

THEME: As In Heaven - Part 2

SERMON OUTLINE

Do you remember the first time you were invited to a party?

Maybe it was it in primary school when the invite goes around the whole class? It is nice but not that personal. However, when you get an invite to a wedding with your name on it arriving through the mail in that special envelope it makes you feel like a VIP, so that you can't wait to be there.

When we read the gospels it is clear that Jesus was invited to many parties as he was someone whom people wanted to be around! Often the crowds would be drawn to whatever party or meal he had been invited to.

There is something about Jesus' personality and life that people are drawn to.

Key passage

Luke 14:15-24

"When one of those at the table with him heard this, he said to Jesus, 'Blessed is the one who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God.'"

In this parable, Jesus is showing us that the kingdom of heaven is just like someone throwing a party. His friends are invited but give their excuses of why they can't make it. The party planner then sends his servants to bring in the poor and needy and all who really want to be at the party.

So if the kingdom of heaven is a party, what kind of party is it?

Revelation 21:4 *"He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."*

This verse gives us a picture of what a heavenly party is like. Not just on one day or for one occasion but for eternity. We have the opportunity and privilege to be a co-host of this party and invite people to a place of JOY, without FEAR and PAIN.

If this is the kind of party that Heaven is throwing, then who are you inviting?

We can experience something of this heavenly party right here on earth even before we get there!

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<http://thehubchurch.podbean.com>

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GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Tell us about the greatest party you have ever been invited to?

INTO THE BIBLE

Read [Luke 14:15-24](#)

Before you became a follower of Jesus which person in the parable do you relate to most and why?

The one who said:

1. 'I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.'
 2. "I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I'm on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.
 3. 'I just got married, so I can't come.'
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What is the most common excuse you hear from people who do not come to church?

Discuss as a group what you can do to help people move past these excuses?

Read [Revelation 21:4](#) and discuss as a group what you think the atmosphere of heaven is like ?

Digging Deeper

Before you turn up to your group can you list at least five meals or parties that Jesus went to and what this tells us about heaven? This will require you to search through the gospels.

APPLICATION

We learn from this parable that a party without people is simply a room full of food. So who are you inviting to the party? Write the name of someone you want to be at the party and pray for them this week.

KEY PRAYER POINTS

Pray for new people to come to the party (church) every week.

Pray for our Christmas Services in December.

Pray for an increase in giving at each location - (remember the best way to give is by standing order).
