

The Facilitator

Community Groups @ Trinity Presbyterian Church

10/6/19

Text: Matthew 22:1-14

Title: Parables of the Kingdom - The Parable of the Wedding Feast

Teacher: Tim Rice

Surrender through Prayer:

Surrender through prayers for Illumination and Transformation, asking that Jesus would meet with you in this time.

Engage with the Sermon

Read the passage together

In the sermon, Tim taught us about the Parable of the Wedding Feast from Matthew 22. As we saw, the King had invited the people of his kingdom to the wedding feast of his Son, but rather than accept the invitation the King's subjects refused, were indifferent, some even killing the messengers. In response, the King kills those who would not attend, and invites others in their place, even clothing them for the wedding feast. As Tim said, Jesus, the King, has given an invitation to His people, and yet so many refuse, even to the point of killing Jesus, and as we saw in the parable, some receive the invitation but are unwilling to be properly clothed by the king. Jesus' invitation communicates both the Greatest Privilege AND the Highest Priority. Our response to Him is truly a "life and death" situation. The miracle of the gospel is not only that God himself would call people who are utterly broken and sinful to be his subjects and attend his wedding feast, but that He would gladly clothe His people for the feast by putting on them His own righteousness, and taking from them their "garments" of filth, and sin and brokenness. And He does so joyfully.

Reflection Questions:

1. *Tim said this parable was told to the scribes and pharisees (the religious leaders), who had received the invitation and yet, in their Unbelief and Pride, they refused to believe in Jesus for salvation, and they refused to receive the forgiveness that only He could give.*
 - ***Like the people in this parable, what are the reasons (even "innocent" ones) you've given in your life for not joyfully receiving Jesus' invitation?***
2. *Tim talked about the Woman in Luke 15 who washed Jesus' feet. Jesus says to Simon (in his rebuke) that this woman loves much, because she has been forgiven of much. The sound of Jesus' wedding feast is overwhelming joy at God's mercy and love.*
 - ***How do we lose the joy of being invited to the feast? How have you...?***
3. *Even after accepting the invitation, God's people must be clothed by Him to attend.*
 - ***What keeps you from allowing God to clothe you in Jesus' righteousness?***
 - ***Read Revelation 19:6-9...What most excites or amazes you about one day attending the Marriage Supper of the Lamb?***

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WORSHIP AND PRAYER:

A.C.T.S.

(Spend time in prayer and worship as you consider Adoring God the Father, Confessing your sin and weakness, giving thanks to Jesus, and asking Holy Spirit to transform you. Use this as a time to talk to God about what's been revealed in your heart from this sermon.)

1. ADORATION *(The Father)*

Adore and Worship God for His attributes and actions

- *Worship the LORD, God Almighty, for His amazing grace and mercy. Praise God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit for His heart to welcome even sinners like us into His Kingdom and family!*

2. CONFESSION *(Me)*

Spend time Confessing sin and ways in which you are finite and limited

- *How have you lived indifferent to God's invitations, or even with hostility toward those who called you to Christ? Confess your hostility to Jesus as foolish and wrong, asking Him for mercy and a changed heart.*

3. THANKSGIVING *(Jesus)*

Give thanks to Jesus for his salvation (past, present, future)

- *Give thanks to Jesus for the wonder of His mercy. Thank Him for being willing to take your place, cursed on the Cross, and for offering His righteousness to clothe your inadequacy before God's holiness.*

4. SUPPLICATION *(Holy Spirit)*

Ask Holy Spirit to transform you in specific ways

- *Ask the Holy Spirit to grow in you His fruit of joy. Pray for a greater ability to intentionally rejoice in His love, His mercy, His very worth and beauty; and pray for the ability to communicate this joy to others.*

5. Prepare for Gospel Community *(My Neighbor)*

Pray for those who are on your heart, that God would use you to impact them with His gospel message.

- *Who do you know that has faithfully invited you or others to Jesus? Pray for them, asking the Lord to help them in their work, and that He would help you learn from them how to better share your faith.*