



FAMILY FAITH NIGHT

A Parable of a special wedding.

THINGS TO GET READY

Before starting the family time get all the following ready:

- Candle + matches.
- Strips of paper (6 of them and each 2 strips the same size for each child)

OPTIONAL: DISCUSSION POINTS

Ask the children if they have ever been to a wedding or a really good party. What was it like? Boring? Fun? Was the bride beautiful? Were there flowers.

Describe to the children your wedding day or what you want your wedding day to be like one day or someone else's wedding that the family knows. Mention the flowers the food the tables... finally mention the number of people you want to invite or did invite. (show pictures if possible)

Tell them that it would be so scary if no one came to your wedding or if you were scared that no one did come to your wedding

A VERSE

Find and read **2 Peter 1:10-20**

10 So, friends, confirm God's invitation to you, his choice of you. Don't put it off; do it now. Do this, and you'll have your life on a firm footing,

11 the streets paved and the way wide open into the eternal kingdom of our Master and Savior, Jesus Christ

A TIME FOR THE FAMILY TO COME TOGETHER AND SHARE THEIR FAITH AND HAVE FAMILY CHURCH WITH ONE ANOTHER.

BEGINNING - PRAYER

Sit together and pray as a family.

Light the candle to indicate a family time has started. Invite different members of the family to light the candle before each family faith night.

Hold hands and pray a prayer together or recite this prayer:

*Dear God, we thank you for all the wonderful stories you have given us called parables. They teach us so much like today's parable. God we invite you into our family and this time together.
Amen*

Other ways to pray

- **Coloring Prayer:** First, gather coloring utensils and coloring sheets. Second, decide what you'll pray for with each color. For example, use purple while praying aloud for animals, green for family members, blue for the Earth and the environment. Tailor the categories to your own family
Fill in the Blank Prayer: Take turns going back and forth or from person to person, if you're in a group, saying, "God is great, God is good, thank you God for _____." See how long you can keep it going. It's fun (and sometimes breathtaking) to hear what your children say. Discussing what is inside our hearts and minds with each other is a crucial way to build relationships. Consequently, this practice builds both relationships with God and with each other.

MIDDLE - STORY TIME

A parable

Read the story on the next page aloud as a family. Take turns reading or pick a story teller to capture the wonder in the story.

DISCUSSION TIME

In Jesus story he mentioned that the king then invited everyone to his son's wedding. There were so many people there.

1. Do you think that if Jesus had a party that he would only invite a few people? Or would he have invited everyone?
2. Do you think that Jesus would be a little sad that some people won't want to come to his party?
3. Why do you think that Jesus would want to invite everyone to his party?
4. If you got invited to go to a party by Jesus would you go? Would you be excited?

ENDING – ACTIVITY

Have 3 pairs of stripes of paper each pair longer than the next.

Fold the papers that are the same into a heart shape. And staple the papers together. Repeat for the other longer pairs but one on top of each other. As in picture below:

Have on the last heart strip. The words: "You are invited by Jesus to His banquet"



Story

A Parable

Sometimes people who receive an invitation to a party don't want to go, so they make up excuses. Here are some excuses they might use:

- **I've had a bad cold and I just can't seem get over it.**
- **I think we are going to visit my grandmother.**
- **We are having a test at school and I should stay home and study.**
- **I must go to soccer practice.**
- **Mom said I should babysit my little brother.**

Making excuses isn't new. Even back in Bible times people made excuses.

Jesus loved telling stories and we have been the past few weeks telling the stories of Jesus and here is another one

Jesus once told a story about a king who threw a party, but none of the people he invited showed up for his party. In Jesus' story, the king was going to have a party for his son who was getting married. Since he was a king, and this was his only son, you can imagine that it was going to be quite a celebration and it was a tremendous honour to be invited!

He sent out invitations to many people

All the plans had been made, the food was prepared, the invitations had been sent. The day of the celebration came, but no one showed up! The king sent his servants to see where the people were and why they had not come to his celebration. The people all began to make excuses about how busy they were.

The king was very upset, so he told his servants to go out into the streets and invite everyone they saw to come to his son's wedding celebration. They did exactly what the king told them to do and the Bible tells us that the wedding hall was filled with guests.