



OUR UNWRITTEN STORY

WEEK 2: SCRIPTURE

Matthew 22:1-3, 8-14

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: 2 “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. 3 He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come.

8 Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. 9 Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ 10 Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

11 “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, 12 and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. 13 Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ 14 For many are called, but few are chosen.”

A CHURCH THAT WELCOMES ALL



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Getting Started

As your group begins this week, take some time to check in with one another and catch up after the week.

Today, we're talking about what it means to be a church that welcomes all. This week, we will look at how we can welcome others, but as we begin, take a moment to think about a time when you have been the one to be welcomed into an unfamiliar place or group of people. What was that like?

Pray together: Lord, help us remember that you first welcomed us into your family through your grace and love. Let the welcome that we've experienced be the inspiration to us as we seek to welcome others. Amen.

SERMON & SCRIPTURE DISCUSSION

Take a moment to read this week's Scripture together, then discuss:

- This Scripture is a parable that invites us to consider God's generosity and our response to it. Share some ways you've experienced God's generosity and how you have responded.
- Verse 10 in our Scripture says that the King wanted to gather people, both "good and bad" to fill the wedding feast. Why do you think Jesus would have described the wedding guests this way? What ideas does this challenge for you?
- As we reflect on the church in Normandy, anyone could come be healed but they had to leave their weapons at the door. Likewise, there are certain things we too must lay down in order to most fully experience Christ's transforming love. What are some of the things that God might be inviting you to lay down?
- In the sermon, Pastor Rob shared a quote: "It's OK not to be OK". How can we create a church community where this statement is true?
- As Christians, we have the opportunity and responsibility to see the image of God in everyone- even people we disagree with or have conflict with. Why is this challenging and what makes it possible?



PRAYER REQUESTS