



Story of My Life – Week 4 – Parable of the Great Banquet
Spiritual Formation Guide

We hope you'll use this guide to take the teaching from Sunday's service and reflect on it with a few friends or with a group. If you have questions or want to talk more about how to take a next spiritual step, contact us at info@wschurch.org.

Scripture:

"He Jesus also told them other parables. He said, ²"The Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of a king who prepared a great wedding feast for his son. ³When the banquet was ready, he sent his servants to notify those who were invited. But they all refused to come!

⁴"So he sent other servants to tell them, 'The feast has been prepared. The bulls and fattened cattle have been killed, and everything is ready. Come to the banquet!' ⁵But the guests he had invited ignored them and went their own way, one to his farm, another to his business. ⁶Others seized his messengers and insulted them and killed them.

⁷"The king was furious, and he sent out his army to destroy the murderers and burn their town. ⁸And he said to his servants, 'The wedding feast is ready, and the guests I invited aren't worthy of the honor. ⁹Now go out to the street corners and invite everyone you see.' ¹⁰So the servants brought in everyone they could find, good and bad alike, and the banquet hall was filled with guests.

¹¹"But when the king came in to meet the guests, he noticed a man who wasn't wearing the proper clothes for a wedding. ¹²'Friend,' he asked, 'how is it that you are here without wedding clothes?' But the man had no reply. ¹³Then the king said to his aides, 'Bind his hands and feet 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."

Matthew 22:1-14

Reflection Questions:

- Icebreaker: What's the fanciest party you've ever attended? What do you remember most about it?
- TJ shared this phrase at the beginning and ending of his teaching: **God is generous, but ignoring his grace is costly.** How does this statement affect you?
- Read Jesus' parable and teaching in Matthew 22:1-14. If you're with others, have someone read it out loud and listen. If you're alone, you can hear someone else read it on the Bible app – youversion.com.
- What stands out to you from this story? Where do you find yourself in the story?

- How does this story challenge you? What questions do you have?
- This story illustrates that God is inviting EVERYONE into his kingdom. How does this comfort you today? How does it challenge you?
- TJ challenged us to reflect on our priorities by spending some time with a few questions. Read these and write down your responses to each, without overthinking:
 - **What do you spend the most time doing?**
 - **Where do you make financial sacrifices?**
 - **What gets you “fired up?”**
 - **What do you fear losing?**

After you’ve written down some answers, read back over your responses. What do you notice?

- What do you sense God’s invitation is to you today?
If you’re not sure, pause and ask Him to show you.
Finally, talk to him about your response.