

Key Scripture:

Matthew 22:14 NKJV For many are called, but few are chosen.

Matthew 22:1-14 NLT

 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 <u>great wedding feast for his son</u>.
When the banquet was ready, <u>he sent his servants</u> to notify those who were invited. But they all refused to come!

4 "So he sent <u>other servants to tell them</u>, 'The feast has been prepared. The bulls and fattened cattle have been killed, and everything is ready. Come to the banquet!' 5 But the guests he had invited ignored them and went their own way, one to his farm, another to his business. 6 Others 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. 8 And he said to his servants, 'The wedding feast is ready, and the guests I invited aren't worthy of the honor. 9 Now <u>go out</u> to the street corners and invite everyone you see.' 10 So <u>the servants brought in everyone they could find</u>,

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. 13 Then 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.*"

Responses To The Invitation

- ✓ **Ignored the invitation...**didn't take it to heart.
- ✓ **Too busy**...Went their own ways. (business...farm)
- ✓ Hostile...toward the messengers.

God's plans don't change by those who reject His invitation... Only thing that changes are the guests.

Time Line of Events

- ✓ The King: Heavenly <u>Father</u>
- ✓ The Son: <u>Jesus</u>
- ✓ 1st Messengers: John the Baptist & original 12 Disciples before cross.
- ✓ 2nd Messengers: Disciples & 120 believers after cross.
- ✓ 3rd Messengers: Disciples after destruction of Jerusalem.

You Asked For It

Many Are Called...Few Are Chosen

The Chosen Few...

1. Be <u>willing</u> to get out of your comfort zone.

Matthew 22:2-4 NKJV

2 "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son,
3 and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding;
and *they were <u>not willing</u> to come.*

2. Allow for <u>margins</u> in your day.

Matthew 22:5 NLT But *the guests he had invited ignored them and <u>went their own way</u>, one to his farm, another to his business.*

Colossians 4:5 GNT Be wise in the way you act toward those who are not believers, making good use of <u>every opportunity</u> you have.

3. Answer the Call and go out!

Acts 2:38-39 NLT

38 Peter replied, **"Each of you must repent of your sins, turn to God, and be baptized** in the name of Jesus Christ to show that you have received forgiveness for your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 This promise is to you, and to your children, and even to the Gentiles— <u>all who have been called by the Lord our God.</u>"

Matthew 22:9 NLT

Now <u>go out</u> to the street corners and invite everyone you see. Matthew 22:14 NKJV For many are called, but few are chosen.

4. Have *faith* that can be seen.

Matthew 22:11-12 NLT

11 "But when the king came in to meet the guests, he <u>noticed a man who wasn't</u> <u>wearing the proper clothes for a wedding.</u> 12 'Friend,' he asked, 'how is it that you are here without wedding clothes?' But the man had no reply.

James 2:17-18 NLT

17 So you see, *faith by itself isn't enough*.

Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless. 18 Now someone may argue, "Some people have faith; others have good deeds.

" But I say, "How can you <u>show me your faith</u> if you don't have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds."