

November 2, 2025

I Am Made for Community > - - ->
Elementary Leader Guide

the place for kids to take their first steps with jesus.

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We are all invited into God's family through the parable of the wedding feast Jesus told this parable to help people know that everyone is invited to His kingdom, but you must accept the invitation! God sent Jesus to rescue us and provide a way for us to be part of His family forever.

BIBLE- The Story of the Wedding Feast- Matt 22:1-14; Luke 14:15-24

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At a Glance

The Code

Gospel Page

Leader Devos

provide you wit discussion. All of the Every week you have:
Roku Games to pl

The first 10 minutes as kids arrive is a very important time in your small group. Because of this, we provide you with intentional activities to engage their interests and help lead into a great discussion. All of this is so that "boredom" is not an excuse. Everything is only available one time.

- Roku Games to play together that are changed out monthly.
- 2 month specific games or group activities.
- Plus 2 Social Activities. ** Use one now and save the other for an incentive to participate in all the activities.

Games and Music (10 minutes)

What You Need: Instruction Page, Game Sets, Roku Game Instruction Page, "Team Puzzle" printable (1 per group), Adult scissors (1 per group), Tape (1 per group), Markers or crayons (several), Missing at the Game video on Roku

What You Do:

- Play worship songs and other songs available on Roku during the Social Game or while kids are playing.
- Using the supplies and game instruction page, choose one game to play with the kids today.
- As you are playing, use this as a time to call each kid by name and learn their names well.

Say: That was a fun game to get us ready to watch our Bible video. Let's sit and listen to our story today."

Bible Story Video (10 minutes)

Bible Story Recap- Say This

Well, that was a plot twist! Everyone, say, "Plot twist!" (*Plot twist!*) This man was having a big party, but the people rejected his invitation. Can you imagine being invited to a to big feast and saying you do not want to go? Well, the man did not give up! He sent his servant to tell the people that the party was ready, and that they should come. But the people made excuses not to go. Still the man did not give up! He sent his servant to invite the poor, blind, and lame (those who could not walk) to his party. Guess what? Say, "What?" (*What?*) They all came! The people who were usually looked down on or not invited to most parties were invited to this party, and they came! This parable teaches that God invites everyone to have a relationship with Him. Say, "God welcomes us!" (*God welcomes us!*) This story shows that God invites and welcomes everyone, but some people reject Him and His invitation.

Gospel Connection: (refer to the 4 Circles poster in your small group spaces)

I wonder what group I would fall into? Would I make excuses and pretend to be too busy for the party? Or would I run to the feast when I received the invitation? What about you? (Allow responses.)

(Circle two) We've all done wrong things and turned away from God, which breaks our friendship with Him. We can't fix it on our own, but Jesus will come back to make everything right, and only those who follow Him will be at His forever party in heaven.

(Circle one) God made you, knows you, and loves you, and He wants you to be close to Him forever. But because God is perfect and can't ignore sin, we need Jesus to forgive our sins so we can be on God's team and live with Him forever.

(Circle three) Jesus is our Rescuer who took the punishment for our sins when He died on the cross, and He came back to life to give us new life forever. When we believe in Jesus and follow Him, God forgives us and welcomes us to be with Him forever!

(Circle four) Jesus invites everyone to be part of His team, but we have to choose to accept His invitation. When we trust and follow Jesus, God welcomes us into His family and we get to be part of His forever community!

Talk to a leader if you want to know more about following Jesus!

Even in a room full of people, you can still feel alone. You may feel like you do not fit in with the other kids, that you are not like other kids, or that you just do not belong. Well, I have an important message for you: You are made for community! We all need each other, and we want you to know that you are welcome here! **God welcomes us**. Let me hear you say, **"God welcomes us!"** (**God welcomes us!)** He does not want us to be alone. The next time you feel alone, remember that God loves you and welcomes you. The next time you are scared, remember that God welcomes you, and He loves you. The next time you think no one cares, remember that you are loved by the Creator of the world, and He welcomes you! Let's thank God right now for the way He welcomes us by praying in 3-2-1.

God, thank You for welcoming us. You love us so much that You sent Jesus to make the way for us to have a relationship with You. You make this invitation to love and follow You available for everyone. You welcome all of us so we can follow You together in community. Help us to always remember that You love and welcome us, and help us share Your welcoming invitation with others. Amen.

Favorite Feast Game

Kids will draw and guess each other's favorite meals.

Big Goal: Know that in the Bible story, everyone was invited to the feast. Like the man in the story, **God welcomes us** all.

Leader Prep: None

Supplies: Dry erase board, marker, and eraser OR Butcher Paper Sheet (1 per group), Timer or stopwatch (1 per group)

What To Do: When I say the words "favorite feast," what do you picture on your plate? Don't tell us yet! A feast is not just a regular meal. A feast for you could be a meal with all your favorite foods and you can eat as much of those foods as you would like! You will have the chance to draw a picture to tell us about your favorite feast. One by one, you will come up to the board and draw three of your favorite foods on a plate without saying aloud what they are. The rest of the team will have 10 seconds to guess your favorite meal. I can't wait to learn about your "Favorite Feast"!

Keep It Going: Instruct leaders to take a turn drawing their own feasts, and allow the kids to guess what is on the plate.

Leader Tip: Invite kids to raise their hands to guess what other kids are drawing. Before a child begins to draw, encourage him to quietly whisper to you the names of what he will draw so you can guide appropriate answers as needed. Be sensitive to the drawing abilities of different kids.

Loud And Clear: Imagine that you have an invitation to eat your favorite meal tonight. Would you turn down that invitation? No way! You would probably eagerly accept that invitation! When we eat our favorite foods, we are satisfied for a while, but soon, we are hungry again. Physical food, even a feast, can never truly satisfy us the way God's love does! When we accept God's invitation into a relationship with Him, God offers us something much better than our favorite feast! God offers us the opportunity to be filled with His love and welcomes us to enjoy that love with others in our community.

Like the man in our Bible story, **God welcomes us** all to be a part of His family! Say, **"God welcomes us!"** (**God welcomes us!)** Unlike the food we eat, His love will never run out and we will never tire of it. God has more than enough love for everyone. God welcomes everyone into His family!

Let's chat about this more by looking at some questions that make us think deeper.

Discussion Questions:

- What is a fun way to welcome someone who is new at school, at church, or in your neighborhood? (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)
- Goody bags are a fun way to help friends feel welcome at a party. What are some ways that God helps us feel welcome? (God loves us. God sent Jesus for us. God welcomes everyone, not just "friends" like at a party.)
- The Bible tells us that **God welcomes us** into a relationship with Him because we were made for community. Let's open our Bibles to **Luke 14:21b-23** and read it together. (Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the passage aloud, or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.) When some people rejected the man's invitation, the man invited everyone to come to the party. How do you think those people felt when they were invited? How do you think people feel when they learn God welcomes and invites us to love and follow Him? (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.
- What type of invitation does Jesus have for each one of us? (Answers may vary but should include that Jesus invites us into a relationship with Him.) Only when we receive Jesus' invitation to turn away from our sin and respond to His gift of forgiveness in faith can we be in community with God forever.
- The Bible tells us that **God welcomes** us into a relationship with Him.

Is there anything you have questions about? (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.) Let's pray and talk to God. (Lead the group in prayer. Consider using the following prayer prompt.)

God, thank You for loving us enough to invite us into a relationship with You. The gift of Your Son, Jesus, is the best invitation we will ever receive. Help us see our need for You, God, and not turn away the invitation, like those in our Bible story today. Amen.

We learned through today's Bible story that many people were invited to the party banquet, but some chose not to come. **God welcomes us** and wants us to be a part of His family. God sent His Son, Jesus, so we would have a way to join His family and be with Him forever.

GOING HOME

Pass out the coloring pages for kids to take home. Greet families as they arrive and tell them something about their child you saw today. Say goodbye and call everyone by name.