

The Marriage Supper Of The Lamb

Revelation 19:6-9

MEMORY VERSE

REVELATION 19:1

After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God! "

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

Several cups or small bowls, water, ground black pepper, dishwashing liquid and paper towels.

Grape juice, crackers, plastic cups and holders for communion. All of these items are available at the church.

As many "Wedding Invitation" templates as the number of children in your class, construction paper, markers and glue sticks.

ATTENTION GETTER!

Soap and Water

This activity will demonstrate to the children how Jesus makes us clean and righteous. We can't do it on our own.

You will need a few cups or small bowls. Fill half way with water. Bring ground black pepper and dish washing liquid (soap) to class. Sprinkle the pepper over the surface of the water. The pepper will cover it. Next, put a few drops (or allow a child to do this) of liquid dish soap into the middle of the black pepper. Watch what happens. The pepper will scatter to the sides.

In our lesson today we will learn that God will provide us with white, clean robes, which will represent righteousness. How do we get these robes? By allowing Jesus to cleanse our lives of sin. The pepper is like sin in our life. When we ask Jesus into our hearts it is like putting that soap into the water. Sin will scatter, not because

we are good, but because Jesus is perfect and now lives in our hearts. Jesus will make us ready for the great marriage ceremony He has planned for His people. **Jesus is planning a great ceremony for His bride, the church.**

LESSON TIME!

Have you ever been to a wedding? Well in today's lesson we will travel through an entire marriage ceremony. Not just any marriage, but a special marriage between Jesus and His people, the church. Our lesson today will teach us about the wedding reception. But first, let's look at the other two parts of the marriage ceremony: the engagement and the wedding itself.

So we can better understand the verses that we are looking at, let's take a refresher course on the marriage customs in the ancient world. At the time Jesus lived on the earth, and in the place where He lived, there were three major parts of the marriage ceremony. The first was the engagement. This usually consisted of the parents of the bridegroom paying a dowry to the parents of the bride. This would be a legally binding contract, requiring a divorce to break the union.

The Bible teaches us that Jesus is like bridegroom in our relationship with Him. The Father (God) gave His only begotten Son, to pay for our sins (John 3:16). The payment was the death of Jesus on the cross. In Mark 10:45, Jesus speaks to us concerning Himself when He says, "for even the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve; and to give his life a ransom for many."

When we accept Jesus we are referred to as His bride. So we see that God, the Father had to pay a great price in sending His Son. This was kind of like the dowry that was paid so that we could be "engaged" to Jesus. When we accept Jesus as our Savior, we are accepting His payment for our sins and entering into a relationship with Him. He promises that one day we will forever be with Him in

heaven. This “engagement” is a legal contract for us with God to secure our relationship with Him through Jesus.

The second part of the marriage would be when the bridegroom would go with his friends to the house of the bride at midnight with a torch parade through the streets. The bride would be ready with her bridesmaids and would join the parade and go back to the home of the bridegroom. The engagement would usually be a period of about a year. So the bride would wait faithfully and expectantly for her groom to arrive to get her, but she wouldn't know for sure which day he would come for her.

The second part of the marriage ceremony has yet to happen for Christians. This is called the rapture of the church. We as Christians wait for Jesus our groom to come at midnight for us and take us to His home in heaven to be with Him forever. The Bible declares, “...the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first, then we that are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so shall we always be with the Lord” (1 Thessalonians 4:16,17). Isn't that something to look forward to? That gives us a lot of hope for the future. Are you waiting for Jesus to come and take you to heaven to be with Him?

Now we arrive at the third and final portion of the marriage ceremony. This is the wedding reception or the marriage feast. The marriage feast could go on for days. It was a wonderful time of celebration. An illustration of this celebration is given in the Bible in the wedding at Cana in John 2:1-12. **Jesus is planning a great ceremony for His bride, the church.**

REVELATION 19:6, 7

And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the

sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!

"Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready."

At this point in Revelation, God has concluded His judgment on all the evil kingdoms of the world. Now we are getting ready to see the Lord Jesus come with his bride, the church, to the earth to rule and reign. The multitude is thrilled and singing "Alleluia, for the Lord God Omnipotent reigns."

Verse 7 is speaking about us as Christians being ready for the marriage ceremony and celebration that will follow. The bride (Christian believers) joins together with the Lord Jesus who is the Lamb that was slain for us. The glory is completely given to God for giving us the ability to join together with His Son. We as the Lord's bride have made ourselves ready by accepting Jesus and walking in the grace of God. **Jesus is planning a great ceremony for His bride, the church.**

Communion

As Jesus' bride we are waiting for His return. The Lord told us to take communion together while we wait to help us remember Him until He comes. The bread represents His body that was broken for us and the juice represents His blood that was shed for us.

It can be a special time to lead your children in your class in communion. You will need grape juice, crackers, plastic cups and holders. All of these items are available at the church. At an appropriate time, share with the children what communion means and why we take communion. Share with them that Jesus said that He would not drink of the fruit of the vine until He could do it

together with His bride. That will be at the marriage supper of the Lamb.

REVELATION 19:8

And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

God has granted to us a way to stand before Him clean and bright. God has even given us the ability to do good works for Him. Without Jesus in our lives we could not do anything to be righteous before God (Ephesians 2:8-9). But in Christ we can do all things (Philippians 4:13).

The picture given here is that of a bride who has come out in front of all the people at the wedding reception. As they watch her walk out she looks so clean, innocent and pure (Ephesians 5:27). Her clothes are symbolic of her life. She is radiant because her husband has adorned her with love and acceptance. The focus is turned to the groom. He is the one who is worthy of the praise and glory. At the marriage supper of the lamb, it is Jesus who will be the center of attention. Jesus is planning a great ceremony for His bride, the church.

REVELATION 19:9

Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!' "And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."

It will be a great blessing to be invited to this celebration. Besides the church, who is the bride of Christ, there will be others invited. Those who are invited would possibly be the martyred saints of the tribulation and the Old Testament gentiles who came to faith in God and even could be speaking of the angels. Whoever is invited will be blessed to be a part of the wonderful wedding feast of the Lamb.

In order to be assured that you will be a part of that wonderful day, you will need to be a part of the other two portions of the marriage ceremony. The first thing to do is to accept the gracious gift of God, which is to make Jesus your Lord and Savior. Then all you have to do is wait for Jesus to come and take you home to be with Him in heaven. If you accept Him today, you will be assured of one day standing together with the Lord and the rest of His church to rule and reign together with Him. **Jesus is planning a great ceremony for His bride, the church.**

Invitation to Dinner

Using construction paper and markers have the children make invitations to the wedding ceremony. Have the children be as creative as they would like to be. A template is enclosed for your use. The older children can fill in the blanks and for younger children you can use the one with the information already filled out. Paste the template to a piece of colored construction or copy paper and decorate. Below is what the information on the template says.

You're Invited!

What: A Special Wedding Ceremony

Who: Jesus and His bride, the church.

When: When He returns for His church.

Where: In Heaven.

Who can attend? Anyone who believes in Jesus

Questions? Look up Revelation 19:6-9

RSVP required by prayer.

You can use this pattern or your own variation. Many children know of friends or family that don't believe in Jesus. You can encourage them to use this as a witnessing tool to give to that person and share about Jesus.

PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of praise and adoration for Jesus who is preparing this wonderful wedding ceremony for us. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the gospel, give them opportunity to do so.

Younger Children:

You're Invited!

What: A Special Wedding Ceremony
Who: Jesus and His bride, the church.
When: When He returns for His church.
Where: In Heaven.

Who can attend? Anyone who believes in
Jesus

Questions? Look up Revelation 19:6-9
RSVP required by prayer.

Older Children:

You're Invited!

What:
Who:
When:
Where:

Who can attend?

Questions?

RSVP required by prayer.