

MEMORY VERSE/BIG IDEA

TODAY'S MEMORY VERSE/BIG IDEA: Share the memory verse and talk about where it comes from (the Bible, the NEW Testament, the book of Luke, God said these words.) Discuss what the verse/big idea means.

Verse (All Ages): “Go out and tell the people there to come. I want my house to be full!” Luke 14:32b

VERSE MOTIONS

Go out- point “out there”

Come- wave hand toward yourself in “come here” gesture

House- make house with your hands (put fingertips together pitched like roof of house)

Full- spread your hands wide to include “everyone”

PRAYER

Dear God,

Thank You for inviting us to come be part of Your family if we believe in You and follow You. Help us to invite other people to come hear about You at church, and help us to tell them about You ourselves. We know that You want everyone to know about You and ask to be in Your family.

Amen.

BIBLE STORY AND REVIEW QUESTIONS:

Ages 3-Kindergarten: read all with questions. Under age 3: read **highlighted only** and skip questions.

1. One day Jesus was invited to have a meal at the home of a well-known Pharisee. Everyone was watching him. He told this story to the Pharisee.

2. “A man prepared a great feast with lots of food. When everything was ready he sent his servant to invite his friends to come.

Review Question: What did the man do? (*made a big dinner with lots of food, sent his servant to invite his friends to come*)

3. But everyone who was invited made excuses. The first person said, “I cannot come because I have bought a piece of land and I need to go and see it.”

Review Question: Did the first invited friend come to the feast? (*No, he made an excuse and said he had to go do something else*)

4. The next person who was invited to the feast replied, “I have bought five oxen and I need to see if they work as a team ploughing the fields, so I cannot come.”

Review Question: Did the second invited friend come to the feast? (*No, he made an excuse and said he had to go do something else*)

5. Another person who was invited said he couldn't come to the feast because had just gotten married. People were just too busy to come.

Review Question: Did the third invited friend come to the feast? (*No, he made an excuse and said he had to go do something else*)

6. The man was disappointed that none of his friends would come to the party. He said to his servants, “Go into the streets of the city and bring the poor, disabled and blind people to my feast. Encourage them all to come. There's plenty of room for everyone at my dinner party.”

Review Question: How did the man feel when none of his friends would come to his dinner party? (*he was disappointed*)

Review Question: What did the man tell his servants to do? (*go invite the all the people in the streets, including the poor, disabled and blind people*)

7. The man having a feast invited anyone and everyone who would come to his house. God invites everyone, too. God says there's room in heaven for anyone who will believe in Him and follow Him. God wants you to be a part of His family, too. Jesus invites you to be at His table in Heaven someday. All you have to do is believe in Him and trust Him with your life. Then you can be there at his table someday.

God says that no one is too poor, or weak, or bad to be invited to His party in Heaven. God wants us to invite everyone too. We can welcome everyone to church, to play with us, and to be our friend.

BIBLE STORY AND REVIEW QUESTIONS CONTINUED

We should encourage anybody and everybody to be a part of our church family, no matter what they look like, act like, or how much money or stuff they have. God wants everyone.

Review Question: Who does God want to be at His dinner table in Heaven? *(God invites everyone to come and be in His family. A person just has to believe in Jesus and follow Him and then they will be with Jesus in Heaven someday.)*

ACTIVITY

“YOU'RE INVITED!”

Say: Imagine you are having a party. What are some reasons to have a party? (kids answer- birthday, graduation, etc.) Who do you usually invite to a party? (kids answer- friends, family, etc.)

Say: Okay- now we're going to play a game. Everyone sit in a circle. I'll show you how to take turns. One person will start and ask the person next to them on their left, “Will you come to my party?” and then the other person will act like the friends in our story who just gave excuses and did not come to the party. But, you have to make a really silly excuse! Like this, “Sorry, I can't come to your party because I have to MILK MY COW.” Isn't that funny?! Be goofy and silly with your excuses.

At the end say: In our game, people said silly reasons why they couldn't come to our parties. But what if you had a real party and NO ONE came to your party? How would you feel? (kids answer- sad, frustrated, etc.) In our story today, we learned that the man was disappointed when his friends would not come to his party. But, then he invited everyone else to come, even the people that others would not invite to their parties. Our story is about how God invites everyone to come to Him, even people that other people don't include or welcome. Jesus wants all of us at His table.

SONG

“INVITED”

(SING TO THE TUNE OF “LONDON BRIDGE IS FALLING DOWN”)

The man invited all his friends, all his friends, all his friends

The man invited all his friends to his party

None of them would come at all, come at all, come at all

None of them would come at all to his party

So he invited the sick and poor, sick and poor, sick and poor

So he invited the sick and poor to his party
Jesus invites everyone, everyone, everyone

Jesus invites everyone to His table