

## **Adult Sunday School**

### **The Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost 2020 (Lectionary 28 A)**

1. Matthew 22:1-14 is a hard parable. Let's think a minute about why the subjects of a king would refuse to come to the royal wedding banquet. If you had a good relationship with the monarchy, wouldn't you of course come? List some reasons why you wouldn't want to take part in this sort of celebration if you were in this circumstance.
2. What adjectives would you use to describe the king's behavior?
3. Remember the larger context of this parable. Jesus has just entered Jerusalem around the time of Passover, and is teaching in the temple compound. Some of the aristocracy (religious elites, perhaps) are challenging his authority, and he sharply rebukes them, using a series of parables to illustrate his points. How would you feel if you were being rebuked by Jesus like this? How would you feel if you were one of the Jerusalem commoners, and you witnessed Jesus rebuking the leaders who had been taking advantage of your powerless position in society?
4. Read through the Isaiah selection for today. What good news about God do you read there? How does that shed light on Matthew's parable today?