

S.A.F.E. Homes



Strengthening Apostolic Families Everywhere



*"And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled."
Luke 14: 23*

A Compelling Witness

Jesus often shared parables with his listeners to make a point. A parable in the Bible is simply an earthly example with a heavenly meaning. In this parable Jesus tells of a man who prepared a grand feast. Many guests were invited, but one by one they made excuses for not being able to attend the special event. The man ordered his servants to go out and find guests, total strangers, to dine with his family. After giving out many invitations, there was still room for more. The father gave the order again, "Go out...and compel them to come in, so my house can be full!"

Do you ever wonder why churches have van and bus routes? In many places church members go out and knock on doors regularly to invite people to church. Does this seem like a waste of time, a useless endeavor? Not according to God's Word! This parable would suggest that it is important for God's house to be filled. The church, meaning the people, not the building, is commissioned to reach for the lost and bring them to Jesus.

How terrible it would be to have the cure for a terrible disease and selfishly keep it to yourself while others around you are dying. What a privilege it is to know Jesus, to experience the truth of His Word, to know the joy of having your sins washed away through baptism in His name, and being filled with the power of the Holy Ghost. The Bible reminds us, "To whom much is given, much is required," (Luke 12:48).

Who do you work with, go to school with, live near, or pass everyday? With a simple invitation from you, perhaps they would join you in God's house this week. Are you a compelling witness for Jesus?

Family Prayer: *Lord, I know you want us to be witnesses in a troubled world. I pray for the boldness and compassion to reach out to the lost in my community. In Jesus' Name, Amen.*

Includes
Family
Activities

Want more?
Scroll down for
Bonus Pages



Play a variation of Hide and Seek. Everyone hides while “It” counts to 20. “It” goes in search of those hiding. When the first person is found, these two link arms and go in search of the next person. As each one is found the human chain grows longer. When everyone has been found, gather together at the kitchen table to share a snack.

Let's talk

Today's focus verse uses the word “compel.” This seems like a very strong word and gives a sense of urgency. Discuss situations in which you would compel someone to do something for their own good. How can we make a spiritual application for salvation?

In today's story, a man prepared a feast and invited total strangers to his home. Is there someone new in your neighborhood or church congregation whom you could invite for dinner? It doesn't have to be a grand feast, just a time of “breaking bread” together to get to know one another. Let God use your hospitality as a witness for Him.



Additional Challenges

It's amazing how many times in scripture we find examples of hospitality being used to fulfill God's will. Here are just a few.

I Kings 17:9-16

- Who is the prophet of God in this story? _____
- God sent him to a _____ woman during the famine to provide for him.
- What did she prepare for the prophet? _____
- Because of her obedience, what miracle did she receive? _____

John 12:1-8

- Who served supper to Jesus? _____
- A lot of curious people were there because _____ had been raised from the dead.
- _____ anointed the feet of Jesus with _____ and wiped his feet with her _____.
- Who thought this was a waste? _____

Luke 9:12-17

- What did the disciples want Jesus to do at the end of the day? _____

- Jesus told them to feed the people first, but all they had was _____ loaves of bread and _____ fishes.
- Jesus blessed and break the food. How many people were fed? _____
- How many baskets of food were left over after everyone ate? _____

Revelation 19:9

- One of these days we will feast with Jesus at the _____!

Will you let God use your hospitality to fulfill His will on earth?

Puzzle Page

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Unscramble each of the clue words.

Copy the letters in the numbered cells to other cells with the same number.

The Parable of The Great Banquet

