

**“SIGNS OF LOVE ... ANSWERING THE INVITATION!”**  
**OCTOBER 11, 2020 - NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**ISAIAH 25:1-9; PHILIPPIANS 4:1-9; MATTHEW 22:1-14**  
**Promises for your pocket or purse - Take notes and carry them with you.**

**When you get an invitation, what is your reaction? Are you excited? Do you wonder who you will see, what you will do? Are you quick to RSVP? Do you wait and see how your schedule plays out? If nothing else comes up, if the time stays open, if nothing better comes your way, is that when you say you will attend? Do you look at who the invitation is from? Maybe the invite comes from someone you do not know well? Maybe the invite comes from someone who is not your favorite person? Maybe you wonder why you were invited, how you made the list? Do you know Jesus is inviting you, has invited you, wants to welcome you, is ready for you? As we share the parable of the wedding banquet, as we continue our journey through God’s signs of love, we are reminded: God invites us every day to receive, come to, celebrate, trust, pass along, signs of love entrusted into our care! God invites us every day to come to the table together, to build on our relationships, faith and spirit! God invites us every day to boldly say, yes, to his invitation, without delay! God invites us to be blessed each day by the signs of love God shares with us, gives to us, to join in the feast, and much more! As we accept God’s invitation, let us see there is no other place we would rather be than with Christ and God’s people, sharing a table full, a heart full, with signs of love!**

1. What is your first response when you get an invitation? Matthew 22:3,5
  - A. "I can't wait!"
  - B. "I'm going to try and make it."
  - C. "I'm busy, but I'll see."
  - D. "I don't want to go and be with so and so."
  - E. "I don't even know this person that well."
  - F. "Why was I invited?" vs. "I can't believe I was invited!"
  
2. Do you know the signs of love God invites you to behold? Have you ever not accepted an invitation, and then found out later what you really missed? We are invited to receive signs of love, to come to signs of love, to celebrate, trust anew, pass around signs of love, to not miss a thing, thanks to God’s grace!  
Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:2-4,11-12,14
  - A. We are invited to be reconciled.
  - B. We are invited to take our place.
  - C. We are invited to a feast.

- D. We are invited to know peace.
  - E. We are invited to be graced with a calling.
  - F. We are invited to be part of the Kingdom.
  - G. We are invited to be signs of love!
3. How do you feel when you plan a get together, when you have thought long and hard about the list, and then people appear disinterested? How does it feel when people either say they cannot come, or they do not even respond?  
Philippians 4:8; Matthew 22:3,5,7-8,11
- A. How do you think God feels when we do not RSVP?
  - B. God, our perfect Sign of Love, has created, provided, graced us with signs of love. As we accept God's invitation, come to the table, and boldly believe, we will be surprised once again!
4. Do you trust God, who could invite anyone, invites you? Trust God invites you, wants you, saves a place for you, graces you, saves you, has signs of love waiting just for you! Philippians 4:1,4-8; Matthew 22:2,9,14
- A. Do you know Jesus has prepared a place just for you? Trust all God has done, is doing, so you have a place in the Kingdom!
  - B. Jesus chose to invite you, and the person next to you. Believe anew, God has invited you and your neighbor! Receive, enjoy, live in God's grace! God's signs of love, are for one and all!