Text: Matthew 22:1-14
Topic: Salvation. Commitment.
Series: none tape# 96-28

## All Dressed Up?

Reevaluating My Response to The King

1 Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: 2 "The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. 3 He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come. 4 Then he sent some more servants and said, 'Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.'

5 "But they paid no attention and went off--one to his field, another to his business. 6 The rest seized his servants, ill-treated them and killed them. 7 The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. 8 Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. 9 Go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.' 10 So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, both good and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

11 "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. 12 'Friend,' he asked, 'how did you get in here without wedding clothes?' The man was speechless. 13 Then the king told the attendants, 'Tie him

- 1. The Invitation (vv.1-4)
  - A. The King's Generosity
  - B. The King's Patience
- 2. The Response (vv.5-10)
  - A. Group "No"

B. Group "Yes"

- 3. The Inspection (vv.11-14)
  - A. The Criterion

hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' 14 For many are invited, but few are chosen." (NIV)

## B. The Stakes

## **Discussion Questions**

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message.

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1.	With a ruthless honesty take a considerable amount of time to humbly think through, and then write out, your testimony (how and when you responded rightly to God's call). Before you just recite an oft repeated story pause to pray for accuracy and insight into the kind of decision you made. Remember that every "yes" response is not always the biblical response. If you have never responded with a "yes" that included genuine repentance and faith that caused a personal transformation that resulted in a reoriented life, then write out the reasons for your refusal. Take a new look at your reasons and then reconsider your decision.
2.	How do your clothes look right now? If you have responded rightly, how well is your life reflecting God's righteous standard? What changes need to be made in your life right now?
3.	What needs to be done about the people around you that are in the "group 'yes" but have no interest in putting on the right clothes?
	What will you do about it? Who are you thinking about? When?