

The King says, "Come!"

Key Scripture:

*"Come to me,
all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you, and learn from Me,
for I am gentle and humble in heart,
and you shall find rest for your souls.
For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."* Matt. 11:28-30

Portion for the Journey:

The invitation to "Come to the Lord" is initiated in the heart of the Father. None of us, on our own would ever be inclined to pursue God were it not for the Father placing the desire in our hearts. Jesus said, "No man can come to me, except the Father, which hath sent me draw him." Jesus came from the Father to prepare the way so we could draw near to the Most High God. He paid the price so those who hear His voice say, "Come!" can boldly enter the Holy of Holies! Through Jesus, we approach His throne, not as slaves, or beggars, or even as servants. He wants us to know Him as "our Father." Jesus said, "Blessed is he who shall eat bread in the Kingdom of God." He told the parable of a certain man who gave a great supper and invited many, declaring, "Come, for all things are now ready." The ones He initially invited did not come, but instead made excuses. The master directed his servants to go out into the highways and the hedges and compel them to come in so His house could be filled. Luke 14:15-24 How could anyone reject so great an invitation from the One who says, "Come!"? Jesus said that, "all whom the Father gives (entrusts) to Me, will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me, I will most certainly not cast out. [I will never, no never, reject one of them who comes to Me.]" John 6:44; John 6:37

Digging Deeper in the Word:

Does it thrill your heart to think that the King of Kings is calling You to come to him? **This is a royal invitation of the highest degree!** As you study the LORD's call to "Come unto Him," seek to answer the questions through the verses in the list below. As you find the answers to these questions, write the verses that answer them beside the question.

1. Is this call of the LORD a one-time call to salvation (accepting Him as a Savior) or a life of living and learning from Him?
2. Are there any conditions for us to fulfill in order to answer His call to "Come unto Him?"

3. If you come to Him, to you need to fear that He will reject you?
4. What are His promises for those who come to Him?

Look up the verses in Column 1. Read them carefully with the above questions in mind. Then match the verses with the Topics listed in Column 2. Some of the topics may have several verses after them. To simplify your job, you can just write the letter that corresponds to the verse.

Column 1	_____	Column 2
a. Isaiah 1:18-20	_____	Cleansing from sin
b. Rev. 3:20	_____	
c. Isa. 55:1-3	_____	Water for our spirits
d. Matt 11:28	_____	
e. Rev. 22:17	_____	Spiritual nourishment for life
f. John 6:35-37	_____	
g. Luke 14:17	_____	Invitation to the Wedding feast
h. Matt. 22:4	_____	
i. John 7:37	_____	Fellowship with God
j. Isa. 2:3,5	_____	
k. Hebrews 11:6	_____	Rest for our souls

With all of the incredible promises God makes for those who come to Him, it is hard to imagine that anyone would refuse His call, but some do! Read Matt. 22:1-14 and Luke 14:15-24. Why did those who were invited not come? Find which verses correspond with the reasons given below.

1. Unwilling _____
2. Paid no attention to the invitation _____
3. They went their own way _____
4. Made excuses _____

Does a person need to be very good to be invited to dwell with the LORD? (See Matt. 22:10)

What happens to those who do not come? (See Luke 14:17, Rev. 22:17)

FOR FURTHER MEDITATION: Let's conclude by looking at an illustration of one man who came to the LORD's call!! This is an excellent passage to meditate on throughout the day!! Ponder the faith that it takes to come to the LORD, and what it was that kept Peter from sinking beneath the waves!! Matt. 14:28-29

What is God Telling You? Summarize in your own words what God is speaking to your heart. Are there ways that You feel He is calling You to come closer to Him? Are there things that you feel might be hindering you from readily accepting His call to Come?

Responding to GOD: Tell the LORD what is on your heart and how you want to respond to His message to “Come unto Him.” If there are things that you feel are hindering you, tell Him about those, too, and ask Him to help you with them!!