

possibly be eaten. The supper is ready, the tables are laden, the host (explain) is waiting to receive the guests. He sends out a servant to say, "Come, for all things are now ready."

Joy Over an Invitation—When mother tells you of an invitation to a party or "to tea," you little people usually clap your hands (show me how you do it), and dance about. You can hardly wait for the day and hour. You scarcely think of anything else. You are "getting ready" all the time. "Mother, will my dress be ready for the party?" "Mother, let me get my bath to-night, so I'll be ready early for the party to-morrow." "Mother, hurry please and brush my hair; I'll be late for the party."

Excuses—Suppose you sent word, "I want to go for a drive that day"; or, "I have bought some new toys, and I would rather stay at home and play." Just think how sorry, and perhaps angry, your friend would be!

Golden Text—This is just the way those invited to the king's feast acted. They began to make excuses, vs. 18-20. They did not want to come. Tell of the anger of the king. "Go out and ask others to take their places, the poor, etc., etc." The servant did so, and yet there was room. "Go out to the highways, etc. None of those who refused

my invitation shall ever taste of my supper."

Meaning of the Parable—

The HOST—God.

The FEAST—The good things Jesus gives (Joy, Peace, Forgiveness, Heaven, Eternal Life).

The INVITATION—God's Word.

The INVITED GUESTS—The Jews; everybody, you and me.

The SERVANT—The minister, teacher, mother, father (whoever tells you of Jesus and God's invitation).

The EXCUSES—Whatever keeps us from Jesus and His house and His good things.

Our Excuses—Did you ever hear a boy or girl say, "I can't go to Sunday School, I promised Jack or Mary I would go for a walk"; "I can't go to church in my old dress"; "I can't give pennies to the Mission Band: I want them to buy those marbles I was looking at, or to buy that doll I saw in the shop window"? Would you say that these are accepting God's invitation?

Hymn—Sing Hymn 553, Book of Praise—

"If I come to Jesus,

He will make me glad", etc.

Something to Draw at Home—Draw an envelope with the word COME.

Something to Remember—To come when God calls.

SUPERINTENDENT'S BLACKBOARD REVIEW

By Rev. J. M. Duncan, B.D.

A GREAT SUPPER
BADE MANY
HAVE ME EXCUSED
HOUSE . . FILLED
NONE . . BIDDEN . . SHALL TASTE . . SUPPER

The Lesson speaks of A GREAT SUPPER (Print). Who made it? What does it represent? Speak of the blessings the gospel offers—forgiveness, God's favor, peace, Bible promises, hope of heaven. Who were invited? Print, BADE MANY. So, the offer of the gospel is as wide as the world. Quote here Rev. 22: 17—"Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Did all those who were invited come to the supper? No, they all said, HAVE ME EXCUSED (Print). Emphasize the folly of allowing riches, business or pleasure to prevent our coming to Jesus. Had the feast to be given up? Question as to how additional guests were obtained, so that at last we see the HOUSE . . FILLED (Print). But what of the guests first invited? The last verse tells. NONE . . BIDDEN . . SHALL TASTE . . SUPPER. Quote Rev. 7: 9. God will have plenty of guests at His table. Urge upon each scholar the question, "Will I be there?" Every one of us may be, if we take Jesus now as our Saviour.