

Read: Revelation 22:12-17,20

He's Coming! Let Them Know!

Revelation 22:17,20

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let the one who hears say, "Come!" Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life. He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon."

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Think about a time when you got invited to a special event. It could have been a birthday party or even someone's wedding. You may have been invited to go to the zoo or a play with someone. You may get invited to dinner at someone's house or just to hang out with them. It can be so exciting when someone asks you to come and join them for whatever is planned! You've likely done the same and have invited others to join you.

Our reading today has the most amazing invitation ever. It's an invitation from God himself. He simply says, "Come!" The Spirit who is inviting you is the Holy Spirit. He is the one who puts faith in our hearts to believe in Jesus as our Savior. He is saying to anyone who does not believe to put their life of sin behind them and "Come"—turn in faith to Jesus.

God doesn't stop there with the invitation. He tells us that we can invite anyone we want as well! "Let the one who hears say, 'Come!'" When you get an invitation to a party, that invitation is for you only, and you wouldn't just invite another friend who wasn't included on the guest list. Not so with this invitation. Jesus tells you and I to go ahead and tell as many as we can about him and to invite them to hear his message of forgiveness and grace. There will never be too many people in heaven with Jesus.

There's one more thing that Jesus shares and it's a promise. He says, "I am coming soon." That's awesome news that makes us say, "Come, Lord Jesus." But how soon will Jesus come? To be honest, we don't know. God never shares the time, the year, the day that Jesus will come again to take us to heaven. He could come at any time, or it could be years and years. So, what does that mean for us? We need to get going! We've got people to invite! Tell as many people as possible the wonderful news of Jesus as their Savior.

You've got an invitation from Jesus, and you've got that invitation to share to the most amazing get together ever—in heaven forever with Jesus!

The questions below are to help families discuss this devotion. The questions are divided by age group as suggestions, but anyone could reflect on any of the questions as they desire.

Questions for the Younger Children

- When people come over to your home, what do you do to get ready for them?
- We don't know when Jesus is coming to take us to heaven, but what can we do to get ready for him while we wait?

Questions for Elementary Age Children

- You learned in today's devotion that Jesus is coming again, but he doesn't say exactly when. Why do you think God *doesn't* tell us the exact time?
- You have the greatest invitation ever. It's from Jesus, and he says to share it with as many as you can. Share as many people as you know that you could tell about God's invitation for us. How will you let them know?

Questions for Middle School and Above

- When Jesus was about to leave the disciples and go back to heaven, he made them a promise—that he would be back. How do you think this promise helped the disciples and can help us?
- Since we don't know the specific time, day, month, or year that Jesus will return, how does that impact our urgency to share our faith?

Closing Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for calling me your child. Help me to share your invitation and your message of grace with everyone I know. Give me the excitement and courage to do so. In your name I pray. Amen.