

# Amanda's Special Party

Key Word: **Invitation**

Key Verse: "For many are called, but few are chosen." *Matthew 22:14*

Amanda Squirrel hummed as she finished icing the huge cake she had made. "Wow!" gasped Hetty Hedgehog. "It's the biggest cake I've ever seen!" Amanda had been planning this party for months. She and Hetty had been working hard for days, preparing food, cleaning up, and decorating the hall. "I do hope everybody enjoys themselves," sighed Amanda.

"Of course they will," responded Hetty. "The weasel band will provide music, the food is terrific, and there are some wonderful surprises in store. How could anybody not enjoy themselves?" But Amanda was looking at her watch. "It's so late," she said. "I thought they would all be here by now."

"We sent the invitations a long time ago," Hetty said. "I'll go remind our guests. I'll be back soon and the hall will be full in no time." But Hetty wasn't back soon. In fact, she didn't return at all. Amanda called Derrick Dormouse. "Will you go and get my guests? My party is all ready, but I can't celebrate alone, and Hetty is not back."

Derrick scampered off. Amanda waited and waited, but he didn't return, either. Amanda went out and gathered every tiny animal she could find:

dormice, wood lice, ants, spiders, two worms, an old cockroach, wood pigeons, starlings, and a rat with one eye. They all came and had a wonderful time. They had never been to such a wonderful party.

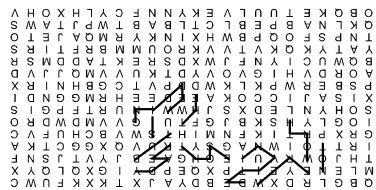
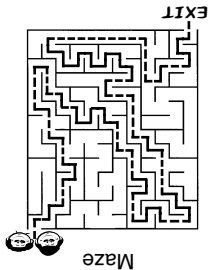
Amanda found that the big important animals just couldn't believe anybody would have such a wonderful party for free. They had attacked Hetty and Derrick for telling them lies. Amanda was furious. She took Hetty and Derrick back. When the big, important animals saw what a wonderful celebration the tiny woodland creatures were enjoying, they all wanted to be there, too. Amanda said, "You had your chance. You didn't want to come. You were mean to Hetty and Derrick, now you must watch while we enjoy ourselves. You should have believed me when I promised you the party of a lifetime." Then she went back inside to continue the party with her new friends.

## Questions

1. Why didn't the big, important animals come to the party?
2. Why did Amanda ask the tiny creatures last?

# Gospel Grams

Today's Gospel Story  
is from  
**Matthew 22: 1-14**



Twisted Word Search

## ANSWERS

Cryptogram  
Many are called,  
but few are chosen.

## Cryptogram

Solve the puzzle (a verse from today's Gospel story) by figuring out the code and placing the corresponding letter in the space above that number. Three letters have been done for you.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
23											16									10					

  A    
19 23 4 15
  A    
23 2 25
  A L L    
8 23 16 16 25 5
  U    
11 10 14
        
7 25 24

  A    
23 2 25
        
8 12 6 26 25 4

## Twisted Word Search

Find each of the words in the verse in the puzzle. If a word appears more than once, you must find it more than once. Remember, words in a twisted word search **DO NOT** always go in a straight line! One word has been done for you.

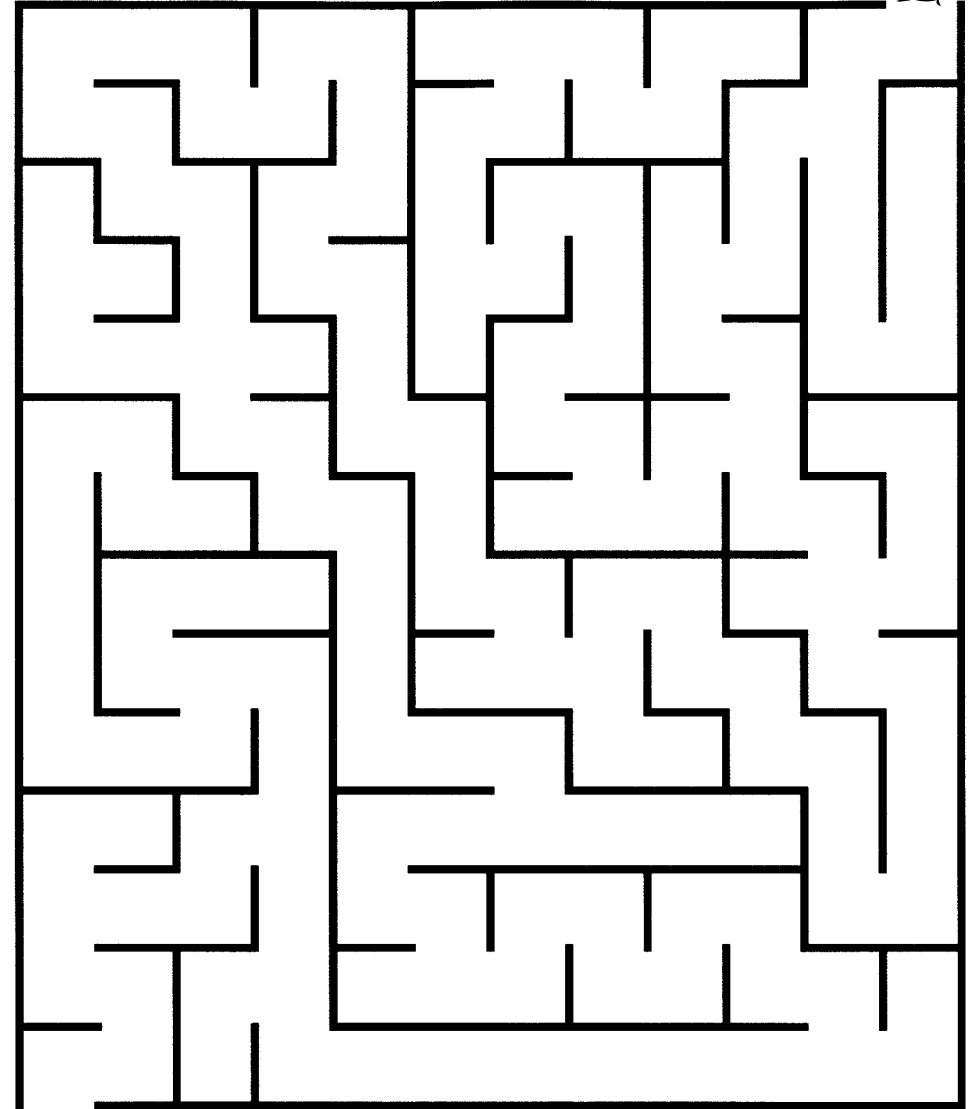
Matthew 22:8

**“The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy.”**

Q B G L R D X W D E B D Y A J X T K X K F U W C  
 M L E N E Y E I T P X Q E P D Y I G X Q L Q Y X  
 T H J O W R V U I E O H G A E B J Y V T J S N F  
 I R T T O I W N A G S Y T R U V Q X G G C T K A  
 G R X P R T I K F N M I H T S W V B C H U F V C  
 I O G L Y H S K B J G F T U I G V V M D W D R O  
 S O H Y N L E D X S J H W W I N U R T F P G I S  
 X I S A J I C C O K A E E D E E H R M G G N D I  
 P S B E R W P K L K W D D P V T C G B H N I R X  
 A O R D V H I G V O V Y D T K U V V M Q J J V D  
 B Q W U C I Y N F J W X D S R E K T A D D M S R  
 Y A T Y K Q K V T V V K R O U M M B R F T I R S  
 T N P S F O Q P B W H X I N K Y R M Q A J E T O  
 Q K L N A B P E B L C T L B A B T W P J T A W S  
 O B Q K E T U U L V E K Y N N F C Y L H X O H V

## Maze

Today's Gospel story teaches us that God invites us all to be a part of his family. Some people join with the wrong attitude. They think they can get something from God without ever really loving him. Todd was having a big birthday party at a skating rink. Everyone wanted to be his friend so they could be invited. After the party, most of his new friends ignored him. His friend, Mike, has stood with him through thick and thin, and when Todd gets two tickets to go to an amusement park, he invites his real friend, Mike, to go with him. Help Todd and Mike find their way through the amusement park, so they can have lots of fun!



EXIT