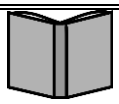
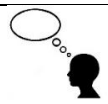
CHESTER ROAD Baptist Church

iConnect Small Groups

Small Group/ Reflection Notes

	22-11-2026		Parable of the Margaritas
 ***Nibbles*** *whilst you wait*	☐ What's the last wedding you attended?		
 ***Starters*** *discussion*	☐ What's the last wedding you attended? ☐ What makes for a good wedding reception? ☐ Who normally gets invited to a wedding? ☐ Have you ever planned an event or gathering, only for people to pull out at the last minute? How did it make you feel?		
 Read	**Matthew 22:1-14**	 Listen again	ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Talks
 **Mains** Bible study	☐ v.1-3: Why might those on the original guest list have declined to attend? Who might they have been snubbing: the King or the Prince? Why? In this Parable, who is the King? The son? The servants? The original guest list? ☐ v.4: What did the King do to convince the invited guests to attend? Why might this have not worked? ☐ v.5-6: What does this say about those originally invited? Read Acts 7:51-53: who do the 'servants' represent? How can life/ interests sometimes keep *us* away from God? ☐ v.7-8: In this scenario, how did the King react? How do you respond to *portrayals* of God being violent? Matthew was written *after* Roman General Titus in AD70 had destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple. How might this explain the King's reaction? ☐ v.9-10: Who did the King invite instead? What qualified them to attend? Why did it not matter so much whether they were *good* or *bad?* Why can it be so hard sometimes for us to accept those that God accepts? Why are some Christians less inclusive than Christ? ☐ 11-14: What's your initial reaction to the King's response? Read Isaiah 61:10: how do this explain the King's response? What had this 'good or bad' guest refused to accept? Why is it never about whether *we* are 'good or bad'; and only about how good *Christ* is and whether we have received what Christ offers us?		
 ***Sides*** *for interest*	☐ Some Christians believe that God alone determines/ pre-selects who *can* and who *cannot* become a Christian – a follower of Christ. Other Christians believe God wants *all* people to become Christians but allows everyone freewill to decide for themselves – some do, some don't. ☐ How do *you* understand/ interpret v.14?		

 **Desserts** *for reflection*	☐ Which verse stands out to you? Why do you think it grabs your attention? ☐ Which verse(s) will you need to think more about? Why? ☐ Thinking of the characters in the Bible, when have you been more like: ☐ the King? ☐ the son? ☐ the servants? ☐ those privileged on the original Guest List? ☐ the 'good or bad' included guests? ☐ the rejected guest?
 Do	☐ Watch a film with a wedding theme. ☐ Invite someone to a Christmas event/ service? **ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Christmas**
 Pray	
 My questions:	

Access Small Group/ Reflection notes from: **ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Notes**

If you're not yet in a small group, why not join one! Check out : ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/SmallGroups
Can't see a group to suit your availability/interest? Start one! SmallGroups@ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk