

## Old Testament

## Genesis 18:1-15

There are only 6 places in the bible where the word “laughed” is used. Think about that. Only 6. Is the bible a cheerless book? Surely, you jest! Another piece of information is that when the word is used it describes disbelief of something God has said or promised. Or the disbelief shifts into mockery and belittling of another person. So, what does this story and laughter have to offer us today?

Both children and adults – I ask you to think of something that is big and impossible that you want to do but you just don’t think it could or would ever happen. Now for some of you that are older – why is it impossible, according to you?

*What can I do?*

*What is something that has happened in your life that is miraculous. You never thought it would happen and it did. Tell two or more other people this week. If you are nervous about sharing, say that you are taking a class, and this is part of a class assignment and would they please listen to a short story. What did it feel like to tell someone else?*

How does thinking about your miracle and telling your miracle story change what you think about your impossible dream? I invite you to listen to song The Impossible Dream from the musical The Man of La Mancha  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JsNJtTKdUec>

## New Testament

## Matthew 22:1-14

This is a parable about a wedding feast. Like the last two parables we heard in the two prior week’s Jesus is trying to get the hardheaded and hard hearted pharisees to join him and stop being angry with him.

Weddings are big deals to celebrate, but notice that this story is about the feast, the party after the wedding, not the wedding ceremony or the couple. This is all about the party – the king who is throwing the party and the guests.

When you get dressed up for a wedding or another fancy occasion what does that say about you? What are you thinking to yourself?

The last sentence is very curious. “many are called but few are chosen”. What do these two words – called and chosen mean in this passage? Who is choosing? What if it is not the king but the guests who are calling and choosing?

*What can I do?*

*On a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being “very much” and 1 being “not at all” how do you value your time with God? Send your number to [news@sttimothyiowa.org](mailto:news@sttimothyiowa.org)*

Ponder, what was the last thing you think God was inviting you to do?