Date: 10/07/17

Title: You’re Invited!

Theme: The most important invitation you’ll ever get is the one you get from Jesus.

Object: Various invitations: To creation seminar handbill, to CJ’s wedding, to Donald Trump’s inauguration, to the Hawaiian Luau tonight.

Text: Revelation 22:17 (NIV) The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!” Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.

Did you hear that? Jesus invites us to “come!”

Have you ever been “invited” to come to a special event like a birthday party or a sleep over?

When someone is having a special event, they make plans, and then they invite people to come.

In my bag this morning, I have several invitations. Do you know what an invitation is? Would you like to see them?

[Show and discuss the various invitations: Creation seminar, wedding, inauguration, Hawaiian Luau at our place tonight.]

It is really nice to get an invitation to a special event like these.

And if we accept the invitation and go to the special event, we’re probably going to have a really good time.

But as nice as it is to be invited to special events like these, there is one invitation that is much more important.

It is the invitation that Jesus gives us in the scripture we read today. [Read again.]

Now the Spirit is the Holy Spirit, and the bride is the church, and they invite people to come.

The Holy Spirit shows us that we have disobeyed God and sinned, and the only way we can be forgiven is to come to Jesus and tell Him we’re sorry.

The church invites people to come and find Jesus as their Savior and be forgiven of their sins.

And then anyone who hears that Jesus saves us from our sins can invite others to come and be saved.

And then anyone who is thirsty can drink of the water of life.

That’s a little bit hard to understand, but what it means is that Jesus is like water to someone who is dying of thirst.

We’re not actually dying of thirst but we are dying of sin.

When we disobey God and break His commandments, that’s sin, and the result of sin is death.

And only Jesus can save us from sin because He died on the cross so that we can be forgiven.

Just like water gives life to someone dying of thirst, Jesus gives eternal life to people who are dying because of their sins.

So the invitation of this verse is to come to Jesus and find eternal life instead of eternal death.

Does that sound good to you?

Who would like to accept the invitation to come to Jesus and be saved today?