

Short Talk

(SHT168)

Party Time!

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ALL AGE WORSHIP
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SHORT TALK: “Party Time!”

- Aim of Short talk:** To excite people that every time a person turns to Jesus to live God’s way there is a party in heaven!
- Use of Short talk:** This is a short All Age talk picking out one issue from the Lectionary Gospel reading of the Sunday main service. The talk stands alone and assumes that the Gospel Bible reading may not yet have been read to the congregation. It could be used for example, for the whole congregation before the children go out to their age specific groups, leaving the adults with a full sermon later.
- Main themes:** Repentance, Celebration
- Biblical references:** Luke 15:1-10
- Lectionary:** Year C – 13th Sunday after Trinity
- Props:** You need a table and some props to create a party atmosphere eg:
- A plate of party ring biscuits
 - A bottle of fizzy (eg. Shloer) and a glass.
 - Some balloons
 - Party poppers
 - Party music of some sort

.....

(As you begin this talk, put the party music on, and dance a little, then pick up a biscuit and eat it, and pour yourself a glass of fizz and begin to drink it!)

Who likes a party? *(Receive responses)*

- Parties are great times to celebrate, aren’t they?

We celebrate:

- Birthdays.....has anyone had a birthday recently? *(Receive responses)*
- Come and have a party ring. *(Give birthday people a party ring each)*
- Show us your dance moves. *(Have a bit of fun here!)*

We celebrate wedding anniversaries.....has anyone had a wedding anniversary recently?
(Receive responses)

- Come and have a party ring. *(Give out party rings)*
- Would you like to show us your dance moves? It’s not compulsory!

We celebrate getting a new job.....has anyone got a new job recently? *(Receive responses)*

- Come and have a party ring. *(Give out party rings)*

We celebrate all sorts of things don't we like passing exams, the end of a play and getting engaged?

- We also celebrate occasions like Christmas, Easter and New Year.

It might come as a bit of a surprise to you that heaven also enjoys celebrating.

- Maybe the angels could teach us a few dance moves!

So I wonder what causes heaven to have a party.....

- Could it be an angel having a birthday?
- Could it be at Christmas when they celebrate Jesus coming to earth?

Jesus told his listeners that heaven celebrates when someone who is far from God comes back to Him again.

- He told them a story about a sheep that wandered off, and when the shepherd found it, he had a party with his friends and neighbours to celebrate.
- He also told them a story about a woman who lost a precious coin, and when she found it, she had a party with her friends and neighbours to celebrate.

At the end of these stories Jesus said this:

"In the same way, there will be a glorious celebration in heaven over the rescue of one lost sinner who repents, comes back home, and returns to the fold." (Luke 15:7 – The Passion Translation)

- In other words, every time, a person chooses to follow Jesus and His way of living, heaven celebrates.....
- Heaven has a party.

So when *N1* (name of a member of the congregation) chose to follow Jesus, heaven had a party.

- when *N2* (name of a member of the congregation) chose to follow Jesus, heaven had a party.
- when *N3* (name of a member of the congregation) chose to follow Jesus, heaven had a party.
- when *N4* (name of a member of the congregation) chose to follow Jesus, heaven had a party.

Heaven celebrates when we are found by Jesus and so should we,

- so let's stand and worship Jesus and celebrate together. *(Choose an upbeat celebratory worship song for people to sing)*