

“Running Chairs and the Invitations”

Matthew 18:15-20

September 7, 2008

By Rebecca Enney

Running Chairs is handing out invitations that she has made asking her friends to her upcoming birthday party!

“Hi Sam! Like, do you want to come to my, you know, birthday party? We will have games and cake and ice cream and lots of fun. Like, wanna come?”

“Sure” said Sam. “When is it?”

“Like, it says on the invitation. You know, Sunday, Oct 5 at 4:30pm.” said Running Chairs.

“Okay!” said Sam.

“Oh goodie!” said Running Chairs.



“Like Hi Elizabeth! Like, do you want to come to my, you know, birthday party? We will have games and cake and ice cream and lots of fun. Like, wanna come?”

“When is it?” asked Elizabeth.

“Like, it says on the invitation. You know, Sunday, Oct 5 at 4:30pm.” said Running Chairs.

“I want too! I’ll ask mommy!” said Elizabeth

“Oh goodie!” said Running Chairs.

“Like Hi Barabas! Like, do you want to come to my, you know, birthday party? We will have games and cake and ice cream and lots of fun. Like, wanna come?”

“When is it?” asked Barabas.

“Like, it says on the invitation. You know, Sunday, Oct 5 at 4:30pm.” said Running Chairs.

“Can’t.” said Barabas.

Running Chairs was shocked that someone would NOT come to her wonderful birthday party! She ran back to Elizabeth and complained to her about Barabas!

“Like, I mean, he didn’t even say like why he couldn’t come. He just said ‘can’t’, like he hates me or like he thinks I talk too much. My mommy says you know, I talk too much but that is just because I DO talk too much to her cause she is always busy with so many of us and she does lots of work around the barn every day, but like Barabas just said ‘can’t’ as if I am supposed to KNOW why he like can’t come and it just makes me so mad! I mean it was rude of him to just say ‘can’t’ like he did!”

“Maybe he has other plans for that date.” said Elizabeth. “You probably should not be complaining to ME about this. You should go and talk to HIM. That’s what my mother tells me when I have a disagreement with a friend.”

“Like, what do I do? Just like walk up and say ‘I’m mad at you?’” said Running Chairs.

“Well, you don’t need to start an argument.” said Elizabeth. “You could just say ‘I’m sorry you can’t come to my party. We will miss you.’ And then maybe he will tell you why he can’t come.”

“Oooh!” said Running Chairs. So she walked back to Barabas and said “I’m, like, you know, sorry that you can’t, you know, come to my like party. We will, like, miss you.”

“nnnn.....” said Barabas. “Uncle Floyd and I are going to Pasadena CA for a wedding Sunday, October 5. Here is the invitation. And we are going to meet my dad there! And we will go to Disneyland too. Sorry about not being able to come to your party.”



“Oh, like WOW!” said Running Chairs. She looked closely at the wedding invitation with all the fancy handwriting and the extra envelope and the ‘accommodations’ page and the ‘directions’ page and it had an addressed and stamped envelope with an RSVP card that says ‘accept with pleasure’ or ‘decline with regret’. Running Chairs looked from her little scribbled invitations to her birthday party and looked at the impressive wedding invitation. “Like, maybe I’ll use an invitation like THAT for my, you know, next party!”

If you have a disagreement with someone, like Running Chairs had with Barabas, it is better NOT to go complain to someone else. Elizabeth gave Running Chairs good advice. You don’t need to start an argument. Instead, use kind words and you may find that you still have a good friend after all! THE END