

## The Invitation

*“Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”* Matthew 11:28

An invitation can be a very special thing. Most of us have had the experience of having been invited to a special event of some kind. Maybe you were invited to a special event, or out to dinner with a friend. But the single greatest invitation you will ever receive is this invitation from God! “Come to me!”

These words should give you pause. They are impossible to ignore. God, who has always been and will always be! God, who created the universe with a command! God, who walks upon the clouds and forms the rivers with His fingers! God, who created man from the dust of the earth, now invites us to know Him! He invites us to come and rest in His presence!

God is an inviting God! He invited Abraham to be His friend. He invited Moses to see His Glory. He invited a shepherd named David to become a king. He invited Israel to be the people of God. He invited Mary to give birth to His son. He invited the disciples to follow Him. He invited Thomas to touch His hands and believe. And He is inviting YOU! Oh what a wondrous thought! How can we lightly ignore such an invitation?

God’s favorite word may very well be “*Come*”.

*“Come* let us reason together”

*“All who are thirsty come and drink”*

*“Come to me, all you who labor”*

*“Come and follow me”*

And who can come? “Whosoever will!” All of us are included in the invitation. It does not matter who you are, what you’ve done, or where you came from. No matter your race, your education, your social status, or how much money you have. The invitation has been given to all and all need it! If there was ever a time when we needed to come to God it is now! Everything we have tried and experimented with has failed us. And God has patiently stood on the sideline waiting for us to realize we have failed without Him. He has waited for us to reconsider His invitation!

This is a once in a lifetime, for your eyes only invitation! You cannot pass up this moment. The Holy Spirit tenderly comes to the door of our heart and whispers, “Come to me”. He “Stands at the door and knocks”, waiting for you to open the door of your heart and accept His invitation.

And whatever your need or longing He calls to you and waits. He is ready to save! He is ready to heal! He is ready to speak “Peace, be still” to the storms of your life! Are you fearful? Are you lonely? Are you discouraged? Have you lost your way? Stop a moment! Listen! Hear His words. “Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy laden.” Well, what are you waiting for?