

References in the leaflet are from the Bible:

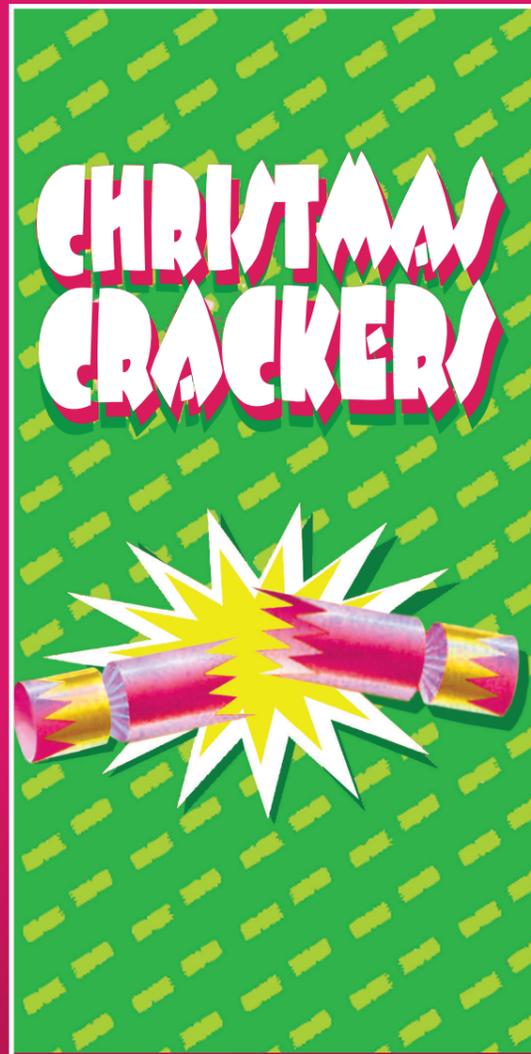
1. Luke chapter 14 verses 15-24.
2. John chapter 5 verse 24
3. John chapter 6 verse 40

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1063



When you pull a Christmas cracker, what do you expect to find inside? A paper hat? A corny joke? A plastic novelty? *Probably all three!*

A famous department store once offered for sale a very special line in Christmas crackers: inside each one was an item of jewellery – a diamond ring, a gold bracelet or a jewel-encrusted brooch.



None of these crackers would disappoint when opened!

The price of a box of these special Christmas novelties was reckoned in thousands of pounds sterling. Only the wealthy would buy these crackers to place beside the dinner plates.

Ask yourself: if the invited guests knew the contents of these crackers, do you think they would turn down their invitation?

Jesus told the story of a man who had prepared a great banquet and invited many guests. When the day of the feast arrived, those who had been invited made various excuses for not attending. Consequently the host of the banquet sent his servants out into the streets to invite anyone who was willing to attend.¹

This story was used by Jesus to illustrate how so many people – for any number of reasons – refuse God's invitation to share heaven with Him. Perhaps people, both then and now, are too busy or too proud to accept, or are unaware of the value and importance of this special invitation.

Do you know that God has given *you* an invitation - to share in the joy of eternal life? You can accept this invitation by believing in His Son, Jesus Christ. This is what Jesus said:

"I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him that sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed from death to life."²
and he also said:

"For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life."³

You wouldn't hesitate if you were offered one of those famous department store special Christmas crackers, would you? Well, God is offering you ETERNAL LIFE! *What's not to like?*