

Matthew 25:1-13

“Be Ready”

April, 21 2024

Matthew 25:1–13 ESV

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

“Don’t worry about when it’s coming. Just know it can come any time and consider what kind of lifestyle, urgency, joy, optimism, and energy will be the life characteristics of anyone who lives in the light of the second coming of Jesus Christ” -Keller

“Wisdom is the art of living skillfully in whatever situation you find yourself in.” -Peterson

Romans 13:11 ESV

Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed.

To be spiritually awake like they were is to let eternity affect us more than what is temporary.

Matthew 13:44–46 ESV

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

Philippians 1:6 ESV

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Galatians 2:20 ESV

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Galatians 5:22–24 ESV

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

Matthew 7:21–23 ESV

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’”

Grow Group Discussion Questions

- 1.) What did God say to you through His Word during our Sunday gathering?
- 2.) What are some examples in your life (work, sports, hobby, etc.) when you walked into a situation where you were unprepared? What was the result?
- 3.) How would you describe and differentiate between the wise and foolish bridesmaids in this passage and how might that apply to our lives today?
- 4.) Talk about the door being shut in this passage. What is the reality for the foolish? What is the reality for the wise? How should these realities direct our lives?
- 5.) What do you spend most of your time thinking about, eternal things or temporary?
- 6.) How does your daily life show that you care about Jesus? Is a self-examination of your actions after this passage tough to reflect on? How does the grace of Jesus Christ help in our weakness? (see *2 Corinthians 12*) How can the community of believers encourage you or keep you accountable? (see *Hebrews 10:24-25*)