

#12 Be Ready!

Matthew 25:1-13

The Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids

Matthew 25:1 “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³ For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴ but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵ As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. ⁶ But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷ Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹ 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.’ ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹² But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ ¹³ Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

1. The Groom Represents **JESUS HIMSELF**

John 3:28 You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, ‘I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.’ ²⁹ The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom’s voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete.

2. Jesus Promised to **RETURN for His BELOVED BRIDE**

John 14:2 In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

3. His Coming Appears to be **DELAYED**

Matthew 25:5 As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept.

4. The Groom **WILL SURELY COME!**

Matthew 25:6 But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’

5. Wise People Will Be **PREPARED** for His Return

Matthew 25:10 ... the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast...

Matthew 24:44 So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

6. Foolish People **WAIT** until it’s Too Late, and will **MISS OUT**

Matthew 25:11 Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹² But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’

Applications from the Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids...

#1 LET’S BE LIKE THOSE **WISE** PEOPLE who have prepared themselves and are keeping watch!

Jesus, if never before, then now.

#2 LET’S **HELP** OTHERS get ready before it’s too late!

2 Peter 3:8-10 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.

⁹ The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief.

*Beginning next Sunday at all campuses:

ASKING FOR A FRIEND: Addressing Common Questions and Objections to the Christian Faith