

The Parable of the Ten Virgins - Matthew 25:1-13

Topics: Celebration, Delay, Eternal Life, Expectations, Future, Hell, Judgment, Last Days, Marriage, Mercy, Preparation, Second Coming, Sin, Surprises, Waiting

Open It

1. What is the most elaborate or important social function you have ever been invited to?
2. When was a time you were late to an important event, and why were you delayed?
- * 3. How do you react when you are made to wait?

Explore It

4. To what did Jesus compare the kingdom of heaven in this parable? (25:1)
5. How were the ten women described? (25:1-2)
6. Why were some of the virgins described as “foolish”? (25:3)
7. What made some of the virgins “wise”? (25:4)
8. What happened to the bridegroom? (25:5)
9. What happened at midnight? (25:6-7)
10. What did the foolish virgins ask of the others? (25:8)
- * 11. How did the wise virgins respond when asked to help the ones who weren’t prepared? (25:9)
12. When did the bridegroom arrive and the wedding banquet begin? (25:10)
13. What did the foolish virgins discover and do when they returned? (25:11)
- * 14. How did the bridegroom respond when some virgins wanted to come to the wedding late? (25:12)
- * 15. With what warning did Jesus conclude this parable? Why? (25:13)

Get It

- * 16. In what ways do you tend to count on more mature Christians or try to ride their coattails?
- * 17. What responsibility does each Christian have before God?
18. Why is continual preparation for Christ’s return better than “last minute cramming”?
19. Why do we tend to think (and act like) we have all the time in the world to get ready for Christ’s return?
20. What does this passage say about the need for individual readiness?
21. What are the possible consequences of putting off thinking about Christ and spiritual growth until later?

Apply It

- * 22. What spiritual preparation do you need to make today in order to “keep watch”?
23. How can you change your attitude this week in order to reflect your belief in the imminent return of Christ?
24. What Christian should you lovingly warn about the imminent return of Christ?