

Sermon Notes | The Ten Bridesmaids - Matthew 24-25

Big Idea: **Be Ready**

Context:

This parable is part of the Olivet Discourse in **Matthew 24-25**.

- **Matt. 24:2-3** – “When will these things be?”
- **Matt. 24:4-31** – “Birth pains”
- **Matt. 24:36** – Unknown hour, Noah, Unfaithful servants, Judgment of sheep and goats
- **Matt. 24:44** – “So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.”
The parables that follow—including the Ten Virgins (**25:1**) and the Talents (**25:14**)—continue this theme.

What are Parables and How Do We Interpret Them?

Parable: A simple story to illustrate a spiritual point.

Parables have a single point that should be considered from each of the major characters.

Why Did Jesus Speak in Parables?

Mark 4:10-12 – The crowd wasn't really judging the parable; the parable was judging the crowd.

The Three Main Characters

Matthew 25:1-5 – Ten virgins go to meet the bridegroom. Five were wise and brought oil; five were foolish and brought none.

The Main Plot

Matthew 25:6-13 – The bridegroom arrives. The wise go into the feast; the foolish are shut out.

Luke 13:24-27 – “I don't know you or where you come from... Away from me, all you evildoers!”

What Does it Mean to Be Ready?

1. Be Saved

2 Corinthians 13:5 – “Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith...”

Matthew 3:2 – “Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of God is near.”

Matthew 4:17 – “Repent, for the Kingdom of God is near.”

Acts 2:38 – “Repent and be baptized... and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

2. Be Spirit-Led

Practicing the Way (J.M. Comer): “Discipline is a means to an end to be with Jesus, become like him, and do what he did...”

Rich Plass (The Relational Soul): "Disciplines set the soul on the path where it can come to know God and live present to others in love."

3. Be Sober-Minded

1 Peter 5:8 – "Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion..."

4. Be Serious

Romans 5:11 – "Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord."

Discussion Guide | The Ten Bridesmaids - Matthew 24-25

Read Matthew 25:1-13

- What did God speak to you this weekend?
- Have you ever been in a situation where you weren't ready or prepared?
- What are your thoughts on the fact that Jesus is coming back?
- What does it mean to be ready?
- How would you describe your current readiness for the Lord?
- What is one change you can make this week to live more ready?