



WEEK 8: BE READY

ICE BREAKER

WORSHIP

PRAYER

SERMON REWIND

The sermon focuses on the importance of being spiritually prepared for Christ's return, as illustrated in the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. The key difference between the two is the wise bridesmaids' possession of sufficient oil, representing the presence of God. We are challenged to live wisely and in obedience to God, emphasizing that mere church attendance or good deeds do not equal relationship with Jesus. Ultimately, the message calls for genuine, consistent surrender and a life lived in anticipation of Christ's second coming.

KEY VERSES

Look up theses additional verses:

Matthew 25:1-13 (NIV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1 Presence of God

The sermon discusses the significance of having oil, representing the presence of God, in contrast to the wise and foolish bridesmaids.

- a. What do you think it looks like to have the presence of God in your life?
- b. How do you believe God wants us to pursue and experience Him?

2 Living Ready

The passage highlights the need for spiritual readiness and the presence of God in our lives as signs of being prepared.

- a. Even though all bridesmaids dozed off, Jesus regarded five as prepared—how can we stay spiritually ready in the middle of ordinary routines and responsibilities?
- b. How can we kindly encourage others to live prepared in ordinary life?

3 Relationship with Jesus

Sometimes people think they are ready just because they attend church or do good things without genuine relationship with Jesus.

- a. What is the danger in living this way? What is the blessing bringing these together while in relationship with Jesus?
- b. What does daily relationship with Jesus look like to you? How can you begin to live that out?

4 Pursuing Teacher

Even in Jesus' stronger statements ("I don't know you"), it seems He is pursuing people by urging them to intimacy with Him and Kingdom wisdom.

- a. Why do you think Jesus gives such a strong statement at the end of the parable ("I don't know you")? What is Jesus' heart in this, in light of the entire context?

- b.** Jesus clearly is wanting to touch their hearts; how do you think Jesus is pursuing your heart through His teaching?

DIVE DEEPER

Personal Reflection

Jesus' teaching is meant to challenge us towards wisdom, not to shame us in our struggle.

- Reflect and be honest. Where in your life do you relate to the wise group? How do you relate to the foolish group?
- What are some ways you can begin living into Kingdom wisdom everyday?

Reminder: God seeks after both the wise and foolish because He is crazy about us all.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Being Ready: This week, write down:

- One daily habit everyone can practice to seek God more diligently.
- One daily habit you can practice to seek God more diligently.

Ask the Holy Spirit to help you be consistent in building relationship with Him.

PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME

Closing Scripture:

2 Corinthians 12:9 (NIV): *"But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.'"*

Let the group rest in that promise as you close together in prayer.

NOTES

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