

Lesson Twelve

The Ten Virgins

Scripture Reference: Matthew 25:1-13

Memory Verse: "Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour ..." (Matthew 25:13)

The teacher stood before the class and said, "This time I am going to tell you some of the lessons of the parable of the Ten Virgins. Then you can answer the questions. You were told to read Matthew 25:1-13 and when you start to answer the questions go to Matthew 24 also — especially verses 36-51 for this chapter tells us more about the coming of Christ and the judgement day and the destruction of Jerusalem."

"More than one parable refers to a wedding feast. Jesus is called a bridegroom and the church is called His bride (Matthew 9:15, John 3:29, Revelation 21:9)."

"There are several lessons we can learn from this parable but of course the main one is that we should be ready at all times for death or for the coming of the Lord at the judgement day — whichever comes first. We don't know when this will happen. Never go into any place where you wouldn't want to be when Christ comes. Never do anything you wouldn't want to be doing when Christ comes."

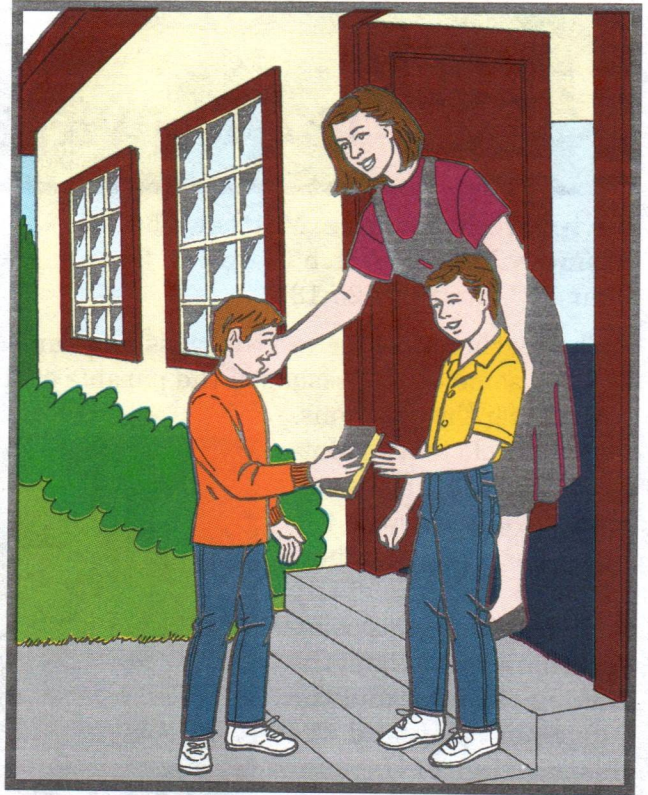
"This is not only being wise by being ready but we will be happier. Any thrill that might come from dancing or drinking or driving a car recklessly or any other sin will only make people unhappy later and often



"We are too late!"

brings an early death. Any who are old enough to become a Christian should not delay. People die at all ages."

"One important lesson we learn from this parable is that no one can be saved for us. The wise could not give oil to the foolish virgins. We cannot be saved on the basis of what anyone else has done. No one is saved by being good enough to earn salvation but we must bear fruit. No matter how good your parents or the members of the church or the preacher or any one else may be, their



"We prepare by serving."

righteousness or obedience or forgiveness from God cannot save you. Paul told the Romans: "So then each one of us shall give account of himself to God" (Romans 14:12).

"We should live as if we might die any minute. But we must prepare for this life and for eternity. No matter what your life work will be — doctor, teacher, preacher, farmer, wife and mother, janitor, space man, or other — you should think of it as a way to serve Christ. That is one reason it is so important to attend a Christian college if you go to college. Ask your parents to start saving now so they can afford to send you. When you make money, save part of it. It may not seem like much but people are more willing to help if you do what you can. Most of all, study hard in school so you will be able to do college work. You might win a scholarship. If you do not attend college, work hard on your job and in all other ways act as a Christian and you will serve the Lord, too."

Questions To Answer

Fill in the blanks.

_____ virgins took lamps and went to meet the
_____. Five were _____ and five were _____.

Five were foolish because they took no _____ with them. While the bridegroom tarried they _____. At _____ there was a cry, Come forth to meet the _____. Then the foolish asked the _____ for _____.

Underline The Best Answer

1. Why did the wise refuse to give oil to the foolish? (a) *They wanted to sell the oil* (b) *They feared there would not be enough for all* (c) *They were selfish.*
2. What happened while they went to buy oil? (a) *The lamps of the wise were trimmed* (b) *The bridegroom came, all went to the feast* (c) *The wise virgins hid their lamps.*
3. When the foolish virgins returned (a) *they could not get in* (b) *they decided they didn't want to attend the feast* (c) *they entered the marriage feast.*
4. In chapter 24 of Matthew, Jesus compared His coming to the days of (a) *David* (b) *Daniel* (c) *Noah.*
5. Chapter 24 tells of the coming of the Son of man and also of the destruction of (a) *a fig tree* (b) *Jerusalem* (c) *Sodom and Gomorrah.*

True - False

Write "true" if the statement is true and "false" if any part of the statement is false.

- _____ 1. Jesus was called the bridegroom and the church His bride.
- _____ 2. People your age don't die or get killed.
- _____ 3. People can be happier in sin but cannot go to heaven that way.
- _____ 4. If our parents are good enough they can use some of their good works to place to our credit.
- _____ 5. Jesus and the angels knew when the judgement day will come.
- _____ 6. Paul told the Romans that most people will have to give account of their deeds.
- _____ 7. Since we may die at any time we do not need to prepare for a future on the earth.

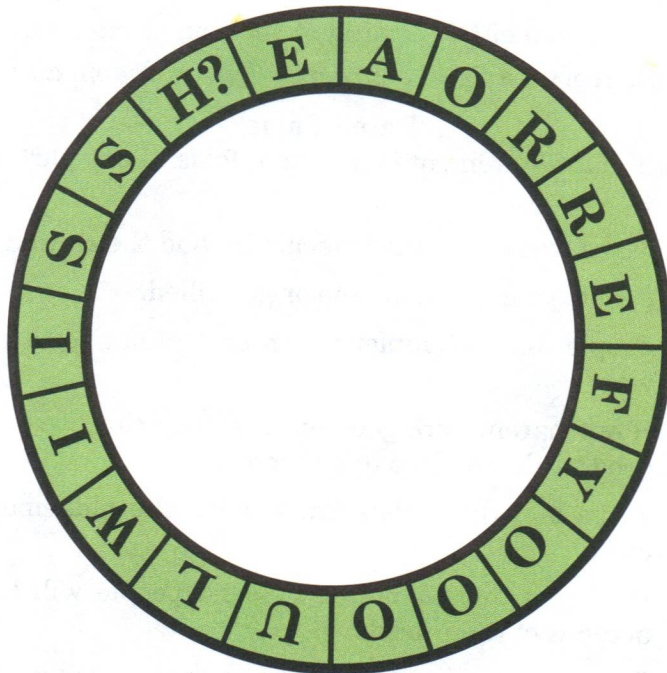
- _____ 8. Only preachers can live for Christ and really serve Him in their daily work.
- _____ 9. Preachers are the only ones who need to attend a Christian college.
- _____ 10. People cannot serve the Lord unless they graduate from college.

Questions To Discuss

1. What are some ways we can watch and be ready for the coming of the Lord?
2. Why should we prepare for a life of service on this earth?
3. How can we prepare for this life and at the same time be preparing or watching for the judgement day?
4. Are people who sin happier than those who serve Christ? Always? Never? Why or why not?
5. What are some foolish things people do? Are any of these as foolish as not being ready for the coming of Christ?

Read The Message

See if you can figure out where to start and how to read the message in the circle. Then write it on the lines on the next page and think about it.



Sometimes we do not know if people suffer in this life for their sins. Here are some examples of some who were punished in some unusual ways. If you cannot tell how they were punished, look up the scriptures.

1. Adam — _____
_____ Genesis 3:17-19.
2. People were so wicked it repented God that He had made them and He destroyed all except eight. _____ Genesis 6:17.
3. Sodom and Gomorrah _____ Genesis 19:24.
4. Egyptians punished for making slaves of Israelites. _____
_____ Exodus 7:17-12:29.
5. Miriam spoke against her brother Moses. _____
Numbers 12:10.
6. Korah and a group rebelled against Moses. _____
_____ Numbers 16:31-33.
7. Nadab and Abihu, sons of Aaron, offered up strange fire which God had not commanded. _____ Leviticus 10:1, 2.
8. Haman plotted to kill the Jews. He planned to hang Mordecai. _____
_____ Esther 9:25.
9. Nebuchadnezzar _____
_____ Daniel 4:28-33.
10. Ananias and Sapphira _____ Acts 5.