

Quail Neighborhood Men's Bible Study
Session 7

The Wise and Foolish Virgins

Matthew 24:36–25:13 (NRSV)

“At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. The wise, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps.

“The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’ Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’ ‘No,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’

“But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. Later the others also came. ‘Sir! Sir!’ they said. ‘Open the door for us!’ But he replied, ‘I tell you the truth, I don’t know you.’

“Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

To what does the phrase “At that time” refer in the beginning of this parable? _____

Taking the story at face value, why would the five foolish virgins not take any extra oil with them?” _____

Again taking the story at face value, what do you think of the bridegroom’s actions with respect to the five foolish virgins? _____

What is the message of the parable? _____

Read Matthew 24:42-51. How does this relate to the parable of the ten virgins? _____

Read Romans 3:22-31. Restate its main point(s) in your own words. _____

Read Ephesians 2:1-10. Restate its main point(s) in your own words. _____

Read James 2:14-26. Restate its main point(s) in your own words. _____

Read Philippians 2:1-13. Restate its main point(s) in your own words. _____

Read Matthew 7:21-23. Restate its main point(s) in your own words. _____

Read John 13:14-17. Restate its main point(s) in your own words. _____

Prayer: Father, thank you for your word of truth, which teaches us not only who you are, through the revelation of Jesus Christ, but also who we are in relation to you—your creature who are greatly loved by you, and, if we are wise, your faithful servants who are diligent and careful to do your will as it is revealed to us, and to be ready for the return of your Son. In His name, Amen.