

The Ten Virgins

- I. The Parable
 - A. Matthew 25:1-13
 - B. The kingdom of heaven will be like.
 - C. Jesus is the bridegroom. The virgins represent his followers.
 - D. The oil is not clearly represented but it is something that is personal and can not be shared with others. Maybe one's own faith, obedience, commitment, etc.

- II. Wise
 - A. Five of the virgins were wise. They were prepared.
 - B. Matthew 24:42-44 – The groom is coming but we do not know when.
 - C. Luke 12:35-37 – Stay dressed for action.
 - D. Preparation:
 1. 2 Timothy 2:15 – study
 2. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 – pray
 3. Ephesians 6 – armor of God
 4. 1 Peter 1:13 – prepare our mind

- III. Foolish
 - A. Five virgins were foolish. They were not prepared.
 - B. Matthew 24:36-39 – swept away
 - C. James 4:13-17 – Making plans that do not include the Lord.
 - D. 2 Timothy 4:3-4 – A lack of preparation can lead to a wandering from the truth.

- IV. Outcomes
 - A. There are two vastly different outcomes for the ten virgins.
 - B. Five were prepared and entered the wedding feast.
 - C. Five were not prepared and left out. "I do not know you."
 - D. This parable is not directed at outsiders but those who would be in the kingdom.

- V. Oil
 - A. We cannot have faith for someone and they cannot have faith for us.
 - B. Our relationship with God is personal.
 - C. Having what we need depends on us.
 - D. Are we ready?