

**Title:** You got Oil?

**Text:** Matthew 25:1-13

**Target:** Big difference between being around Jesus and belonging to Jesus.

1. **Simple Analogy:** *"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom."* (Vs. 1)
  - a. **Jewish Wedding:** Three Parts
    - i. Betrothal - Legally Married
    - ii. Wedding Feast - 7-day Celebration
    - iii. Consummation - Live Together
  - b. **Just Waiting:** The bride lives in the unexpected arrival of her husband between the Betrothal and the Wedding Feast. (Read John 14:3)

**Quote:** Our hope is not only that Jesus saved us, but that He is coming for us.

2. **Specific Audience:** *"Five of them were foolish, and five were wise."* (Vs. 2)
  - a. **Same Testimony:** *"Ten virgins"* (Vs. 1)
  - b. **Same Lamps:** *"Their Lamps"* (Vs. 1)
  - c. **Same Expectation:** *"Meet the bridegroom"* (Vs, 1)
  - d. **Same Location:** *"they all became drowsy and slept"* (Vs. 5)

**Quote:** They all had the same lamp, but not the same light.

3. **Sudden Appearance:** *"But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.'" (Vs. 6)*
  - a. **Declaration:** *"Cry"*
  - b. **Invitation:** *"Come out to meet him."*
  - c. **Connection:** *"For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first."* (1 Thess. 4:16)

**Quote:** Our responsibility is not to determine when Jesus is coming, but to be ready when He does come.

4. **Singular Absence:** *"And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'" (Matthew 25:8)*
  - a. **No Oil:** *"You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him."* (Romans 8:9)

**Quote:** The difference between being around Jesus and belonging to Jesus is the oil.

- b. **No Power:** *"Having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people."* (2 Timothy 3:5)

- c. **No Sharing:** *“But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’”* (Vs. 9)
5. **Shocking Announcement:** *“And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut.”* (Matthew 25:10)
- a. **Recognition:** *“Lord, Lord”*
  - b. **Realization:** *“Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.”* (Vs. 12) \*Read Matthew 7:21-23
  - c. **Revelation:** *“Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”* (Vs. 13) \***Luke 12:40:** *“You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”*
    - i. **Luke 12:40:** *“You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”*
    - ii. **Luke 12:35:** *“Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning,”*

**Quote:** There is coming a day when opportunity ends and eternity will begin.

**Takeaway:** Do you have a lamp or do you have oil?

**Discussion Questions:** Don't feel like you have to answer every question; just let these questions be a guide for conversation in your community group or a mirror of reflection for your own spiritual journey. Much Love...P.E.

1. How does knowing Jesus is coming back affect the way we live today?
2. Do you personally think about Christ's return often? Why or why not?
3. What are some ways people today can look spiritually prepared but not actually be prepared?
4. How can church involvement sometimes create false confidence?
5. What emotions come to mind when you think about Christ returning suddenly?
6. Why do you think Jesus repeatedly warns that we do not know the time of His return?
7. How should the reality of His return influence daily decisions?
8. Why is it possible to know religious language without knowing Jesus personally?
9. What does it mean practically to “stay ready” according to Luke 12:35?