

Watchful & Ready

Matthew 25:1-13

Pastor Chris Lenhart - 11/9/25



Opening Thought Question:

Are we watchful, ready and prepared, for Christ's return?

(1-5) A Wedding Unlike our Own

Outwardly Same – Inwardly Different

The Test of Delay

Drowsy and Ready

(6-9) Midnight Cry

(10-13) Too Late

Keep Watch

Four Lessons for the Waiting Church

1. Cultivate _____ intimacy with the _____.
2. Practice _____ in the _____.
3. Recognize the _____ of the _____.
4. Examine our _____ and _____.

"Is our faith sustained by the Spirit's oil, or by self-effort?"

Further Study

Hab. 1:2, 2:3

Jer. 29

Jn. 14:3

Is. 62:5

Hab. 2:3

Matt. 26:40

Gal. 5:22-23

Ps. 23:5

Gen. 7:16

Matt. 7:21-23

Rom. 13:11-12

Jer. 29:5-7

Ps. 95:7-8

Heb. 3:15, 4:7

<p style="text-align: center;">TELL ME THE STORIES OF JESUS</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Watchful & Ready</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">Next Steps: Home-Group Study and/or Personal Discipleship Guide</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Matt. 25:1-13</p>
<p>Get together as a family or with a friend or group of friends this week!</p> <p>Start with <u>Prayer</u> -ask Jesus to guide our time together. Review prayer requests.</p> <p><u>Read the Text</u> – Matthew 25:1-13</p> <p><u>Questions for Reflection and Discussion:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Compare and contrast the two groups of virgins. How were they the same, and how were they different? 2. What can we learn about the Bridegroom from verses 1-13? 3. Take time to journal about, reflect on, or discuss why delay is so difficult for us to process and live with. What makes waiting hard? 4. Why don't the wise virgins just share their oil with the ones who were unprepared? What does this indicate to us about the nature and reality of our faith? 5. How does it look for the church, both collectively and individually to stay alert? How is this both relevant and hopeful to believers who are seeking to live faithfully today? What are the implications of the concluding words in verse 13? <p><u>Questions guiding Spiritual Formation & Application:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How does this text invite us to grow in a greater love for God? 2. What lessons within this text move us towards growing in our love for one another? 3. What principles could be applied to our family life, careers, communities, or congregational life? 4. Consider how Jesus could use our application of the principles in this text to draw those that do not know him, unto himself? 5. Who is currently in our lives that needs an invitation to meet Jesus or be part of a kind and gracious Christian community? 	<p><u>Further Study</u></p> <p>Hab. 1:2, 2:3 Jer. 29 Jn. 14:3 Is. 62:5 Hab. 2:3 Matt. 26:40 Gal. 5:22-23 Ps. 23:5 Gen. 7:16 Matt. 7:21-23 Rom. 13:11-12 Jer. 29:5-7 Ps. 95:7-8 Heb. 3:15, 4:7</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Prayer Requests</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Family</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Community</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Career & Friends</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Other</p>