



Sermon Discussion Guide

8/16/2026

Sermon: Kingdom Stories *"Don't Waste the Wait"*

Text: *Matthew 25:1-13*

Introduction:

Think about a season of waiting you have experienced. What did that season reveal about you?

Consider:

"...suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope..." Romans 5:3-5

Discuss:

1. Why do you think waiting has such a powerful effect on our spiritual lives?
2. What is the difference between **waiting on God** and simply **waiting for God to do something**?

Matthew 25:5-6 When the crisis comes

Discuss:

3. What is the difference between saying, "I'll turn to God when I need Him," and cultivating a relationship with God before the crisis comes?

Psalms 119:11, John 15:4-5, Luke 6:47-48

Matthew 25:8-9

The parable raises a difficult but important question: **Can someone else's faith sustain me?**

Discuss:

4. What is the difference between being surrounded by faith and actually possessing a personal relationship with Jesus?
5. What are some signs that someone may know a lot about Jesus without actually knowing Jesus?

Philippians 3:8-10 What is the distinction Paul talks about in this passage?

Consider: **2 Corinthians 3:18**

6. If God's grace is actively transforming someone, what should become increasingly visible in their life?
7. Where do you see evidence that God is changing you?
8. Where do you sense God still has work to do?

Am I Living Toward the Kingdom?

Discuss:

The Kingdom is something we are waiting for, but it is also something we are participating in now.

9. What does it look like to live toward God's Kingdom right now?

10. Am I mostly waiting for Jesus to return, or am I actively participating in what Jesus is doing until He returns?

11. What am I postponing? What has God already asked me to do that I keep telling myself I will do later?

12. What needs to be cultivated now? What spiritual practice do I need to develop before the next crisis comes?

13. Where does God want me to grow?

Complete this sentence: "If God's grace is going to make me more like Jesus, I believe He is asking me to grow in _____."

14. Who is God asking me to invest in? The Kingdom isn't simply about my readiness. Who might God be calling me to help become ready?

15. What would it look like for me to live toward the Kingdom this week?

"This week, I will _____."

Reflect: *"Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour."* Matthew 25:13

What am I doing today that will help me be ready when the Bridegroom comes?

 **Close in prayer:**

"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."

2 Peter 3:18