



Weekend Worship

On Sunday, we focused on the story Jesus told about “The Ten Virgins” in Matthew 25:1-13. If you haven’t had a chance to hear a sermon on this section, go on our website and listen to the message on July 26th on Matthew 25:1-13. If you’d like to re-read the section, here it is:

Matthew 25:1-13 (NIV)

“At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.² Five of them were foolish and five were wise.³ The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them.⁴ The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps.⁵ The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

⁶“At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’

⁷“Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps.⁸ The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’

⁹“‘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.’

¹⁰“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.

¹¹“Later the others also came. ‘Lord, Lord,’ they said, ‘open the door for us!’

¹²“But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I don’t know you.’

¹³“Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.¹

True and False Disciples

Matthew 7:21-23 (NIV)

[Jesus said]: “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²² Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’ ²³ Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’”

⇒ In “The Parable of the 10 Virgins,” 5 virgins entered the party and 5 virgins were shut out of the party. In Matthew 7:21-23 (above), some who thought they were “in” are told: “I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!”

a) This section scares me because:

b) What is a Christian’s (YOUR) confidence as you think about standing before the Lord?

The Wise and the Foolish

Matthew 7:24-27 (NIV)

[Jesus said]: “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

1) Jesus describes the wise and foolish in Matthew 7:24-27 (above).

a. What do they do / not do?

○ The wise _____ .

○ The foolish _____ .

b. What is the result?

○ The wise _____ .

○ The foolish _____ .

2) I am wise because:

3) I am wise when I:

4) Storms God has blessed / will bless me to withstand by his grace and blessing are:

Keep Watch

Matthew 16:24-27 ^(NIV)

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. ²⁶ What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? ²⁷ For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father’s glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.”

1) Jesus tells his disciples (the 12, you, me) in Matthew 16:24 (above) to:

- a. _____ themselves
- b. Take up _____
- c. _____ Jesus

2) Give 2 specific examples of:

- a. Things you have denied yourself for Jesus’ sake:

- b. Crosses you have taken up as a Christian:

3) Tell a story of someone (you or someone else) who has followed Jesus (it can be a “spectacular” or “boring” story).

⇒ Based on what God’s taught you in what we’ve studied today, what should YOU:

DO? (and NOT DO?)

PRAY?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Prayer

Dear Jesus, you have filled my heart with faith and made me a follower of you. Thank you for your life-changing work. In your grace and by the Spirit, increase my wisdom and self-control. Empower me to deny myself, take up my cross, and follow you always. In your name, Jesus, I pray. Amen.