



Are You Prepared?

- Icebreaker: How much of a procrastinator are you?

Read Matthew 25:1-13

- What can you remember about the context of this parable? (See Matthew 24:3, 13, 36, 42)
- Why might the disciples have needed to hear this Parable at this point in Jesus ministry?
- Why do you think Jesus uses the setting of a wedding for the parable? (Remember first century Jewish weddings had three parts; the engagement where the bride price was paid, the betrothal where the groom would go and prepare a place for them to live, and the wedding where the groom would return to collect his bride and take her to be with him)
- What are the similarities between the wise and foolish bridesmaids? What are the differences?
- In the story the five foolish bridesmaids did not have enough oil to light their lamps, what might the lamps and oil represent for us? (See Luke 12:35-38)
- In the story the wise bridesmaids refuse to lend any of their oil to the foolish bridesmaids, why might Jesus have included this detail? (See Romans 10:9-10)
- What do you make of the grooms comment 'Truly I tell you, I don't know you.'? Why were the five foolish bridesmaids ultimately denied entry to the banquet?
- What does this story teach us about our responsibility in Jesus absence? (See Matthew 5:14-16 & Titus 2:11-14)
- Bonus Question: Which parable have you found the most challenging during this series?