

Don't Waste the Waiting

Sermon Discussion Questions - November 21, 2021

Pastor

Aaron Ivey

Text

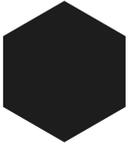
Matthew 25:1-13

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ 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.’ 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. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour. (ESV)

Discussion Questions

1. We see in Matthew 25:1-13 that all 10 virgins slept. Aaron suggests that the major difference between the two groups is that the five wise virgins slept in peace, not apathy. Consider your own heart, do you believe you've been waiting for the return of Christ with a posture of peace or apathy? And if apathy, why?
2. What do you think it looks like to wait in peace and with expectation?
3. Aaron points out that the difference between the five wise virgins and the five foolish virgins has to do with their readiness. What do you think it looks like to be ready for our coming groom Jesus?
4. Consider what you said readiness looks like, what do you think it will cost you to be prepared for Jesus' coming?





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5. Do you believe Jesus is worth the cost of being prepared? Why or why not?
 6. In what ways is God calling you to be faithful and diligent in your pursuit of Him, while we wait for His return?

Prayer

Father, You who raised our Lord Jesus, will raise us and bring us into Your presence. Help our hearts believe this until Jesus comes again.

Holy Spirit, we beg you to fill us up. We need You in the midst of our waiting, to keep us faithful until the very end. Show us what it looks like to be prepared for Your coming and stir our hearts to more and more faithfulness. Thank you, God, for the hope we have in You, the founder and perfecter of our faith.

Amen.