



THE WEEKLY COMPASS

Devotion

Keep Awake The Bridgroom Is Coming

1 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. Matthew 25:1-13 (NIV)

Be Ready

In today's world, we are either on time, too early, or too late. Time dictates how fast we move, when we move, or if we move at all. Preparation allows us time to plan and organize and to engage in expected and sometimes unexpected opportunities.

Procrastination leads to missed opportunities. Preparation or procrastination, we must decide. So often, we take it for granted that we have time to get things in order. We keep putting off the need to prepare until it is too late.

When we think we have time to do this or that, the time we think we have is gone. Psalm 90:12 (ESV) says, "So, teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom." We must be wise in our life and in how we use our time.

Time is valuable. It moves swiftly and it waits for no one, whether we are ready or not. In Matthew 25:13 (ESV) it tells us to, "Watch therefore,

for you know neither the day nor the hour." Jesus proclaimed the importance of preparation. He said in John 14:2-3 (ESV), "My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am."

Jesus is coming back again. Don't procrastinate. Prepare, get ready, and be ready.

Questions

1. Do you feel you procrastinate when it comes to obeying the commands of God?
2. How do you know you are prepared for Jesus' return?

Sunday School Lesson For March 2, 2025

Sunday School Title

Bound by Love

Sunday School Scripture

Exodus 19:1-14

Main Thought:

"Indeed, the whole earth is mine, but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation."
Exodus 19:5-6 (NRSVue)

Closing Prayer:

Father God, Your Word says that no man knows the day nor the hour of Your return. Help us not to take for granted the time You have allowed us to get ready and be ready. Father God, You know our beginning and You know our ending and we trust You to see us through life expected and unexpected opportunities. Help us to understand that when we prepare, we are getting ready with anticipation and hope for what is to come. Father God, thank You for Jesus and for the opportunity to prepare for His anticipated return, in Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

