

WEEK 4: A STORY ABOUT CHRIST RETURNING

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

PREPARE

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MAIN POINT

Jesus fulfilled hundreds of prophecies when He arrived in our world to be our Savior. Many thought the idea of God entering our world was ridiculous and would never happen, but He promised He would come to our world and He did. He has promised He will return, and He will. He will come again to end all evil and suffering and to make everything right and new. Jesus told a story about what wise and foolish people do with the news that He is coming again. The story was told to provoke you to evaluate if you are living with wisdom in light of the news that the King is returning.

LEAN IN BREAK THE ICE

What would you do if you thought the world was ending?

LOOK DOWN LOOK AT GOD'S WORD

Read Matthew 25:1-13

"At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the groom. 2 Five of them were foolish and five were wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they didn't take oil with them; 4 but the wise ones took oil in their flasks with their lamps. 5 When the groom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

6 "In the middle of the night there was a shout: 'Here's the groom! Come out to meet him.'

7 "Then all the virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish ones said to the wise ones, 'Give us some of your oil, because our lamps are going out.'

9 "The wise ones answered, 'No, there won't be enough for us and for you. Go instead to those who sell oil, and buy some for yourselves.'

10 "When they had gone to buy some, the groom arrived, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. 11 Later the rest of the virgins also came and said, 'Master, master, open up for us!'

12 "He replied, 'Truly I tell you, I don't know you!'

13 "Therefore be alert, because you don't know either the day or the hour.

In Matthew 25:1-13 Jesus tells a story about 10 young bridesmaids (virgins) waiting for a young man (groom). All 10 women fell asleep, but only five had prepared enough oil to wait long enough.

What do you learn about the return of Christ from the passage? Call out the verses that relate to your observations.

What does Jesus say the man said in Matthew 25:13, and what might that mean to us?

LOOK OUT
IDENTIFY THE
RELEVANCE IF
GOD'S WORD IN
THE WORLD

Why is it so tempting to focus on the particulars of when Jesus will come back?

What is most exciting about the possibility that Jesus could come back at any time?

LOOK IN
APPLY GOD'S
WORD
TO YOUR LIFE

How might you live your life today to prepare for the day when Jesus returns?

Take a moment to pray for God to help you live your lives wisely today in light of *that day* that Christ returns.