

For when the foolish took their lamps, they did not take extra oil with them, but the prudent ones took extra oil in flasks with their lamps. Matthew 25:3-4

Living Dangerously Text: Matthew 25:1-13 Series: The Parables, #3 Pastor Lyle L. Wahl November 26, 2023

Theme: Indifference to God's grace is dangerous.

A closer look at the parable's story.

- 1. Some background on marriage celebrations at that time and place.
- 2. Examining the parable's story.

A closer look at the parable's meaning.

- 1. Looking at the setting and subject. (chapters 24-25)
- 2. The principle lessons.
- 3. Some basic applications.

In My Life This Week

(As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.)

Monday. Read the parable, Matthew 25:1-13. As you think about the parable today, remember it *is* a parable, not an allegory. Briefly describe the difference between a parable and an allegory and what this means for the story in Matthew 25:1-13.

Tuesday. Read the parable again. On Sunday we made reference to the overall setting and subject of this parable. Describe the setting (Matthew chapters 24 and 25) and how that impacts on how we interpret the parable's message.

Wednesday. After you read the parable today, look at the principle lessons of the parable (there will be some surprises of who is and is not in the kingdom; you cannot piggy-back on someone else's faith) and how that affects you and those around you.

Thursday. Read the parable one more time. As you think of the theme of this parable and the applications we noted on Sunday, how is that going to influence how you live today, tomorrow?

Friday – Saturday. On Sunday we plan to begin our Advent series, *The Christmas You've Always Longed For* with *Slow Down for Reflection*. Think about your pace and schedule for the weeks ahead.

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