

MAINTAINING A FULL LIFE

Matthew 24:42-51

Matthew 25:1-13

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Woodland Church

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"So you, too, must keep watch! For you don't know what day your Lord is coming." (Matthew 24:42, NLT)

"A faithful, sensible servant is one to whom the master can give the responsibility of managing his other household servants and feeding them. If the master returns and finds that the servant has done a good job, there will be a reward. I tell you the truth, the master will put that servant in charge of all he owns. But what if the servant is evil and thinks, 'My master won't be back for a while,' and he begins beating the other servants, partying, and getting drunk? The master will return unannounced and unexpected, and he will cut the servant to pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." (Matthew 24:45-51, NLT)

"Then the Kingdom of Heaven will be like ten bridesmaids who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. The five who were foolish didn't take enough olive oil for their lamps, but the other five were wise enough to take along extra oil. When the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. "At midnight they were roused by the shout, 'Look, the bridegroom is coming! Come out and meet him!' "All the bridesmaids got up and prepared their lamps. Then the five foolish ones asked the others, 'Please give us some of your oil because our lamps are going out.' "But the others replied, 'We don't have enough for all of us. Go to a shop and buy some for yourselves.' "But while they were gone to buy oil, the bridegroom came. Then those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was locked. Later, when the other five bridesmaids returned, they stood outside, calling, 'Lord! Lord! Open the door for us!' "But he called back, 'Believe me, I don't know you!' "So you, too, must keep watch! For you do not know the day or hour of my return." (Matthew 25:1-13, NLT)

1. **BE READY ALL THE TIME FOR THE COMING OF THE LORD.**

“You also must be ready all the time, for the Son of Man will come when least expected.” (Matthew 24:44, NLT)

“A faithful, sensible servant is one to whom the master can give the responsibility of managing his other household servants and feeding them.” (Matthew 24:45, NLT)

- a. Be faithful.
- b. Be sensible.
- c. Manage my home.
- d. Feed my household.

2. **MY HOUSE IS WHERE I LIVE, WHO I LIVE WITH, WHAT MY VOCATION IS, AND MY PERSONAL INFLUENCE.**

“If the master returns and finds that the servant has done a good job, there will be a reward. I tell you the truth, the master will put that servant in charge of all he owns.” (Matthew 24:46-47, NLT)

“Moses was certainly faithful in God's house as a servant. His work was an illustration of the truths God would reveal later.” (Hebrews 3:5, NLT)

3. **STAY FULL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

“The five who were foolish didn't take enough olive oil for their lamps, but the other five were wise enough to take along extra oil... Then the five foolish ones asked the others, 'Please give us some of your oil because our lamps are going out.' "But the others replied, 'We don't have enough for all of us. Go to a shop and buy some for yourselves.'” (Matthew 25:3-4,8-9)

“On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting.” (Acts 2:1-2, NLT)

4. HAVE A HOME DEFENSE PLAN.

“Understand this: If a homeowner knew exactly when a burglar was coming, he would keep watch and not permit his house to be broken into.” (Matthew 24:43, NLT)

- a. Stay sensitive to the Holy Spirit.
- b. Stay sensitive to Biblical Truth.
- c. Beware of cultural dullness.
 - c.i. Desire to replace the Judeo Christian Ethic with a philosophy that constantly changes its values.
 - c.ii. A political earthquake that could change the constitution and governance of the nation.
 - c.iii. An economic shift to socialism.

5. A SPIRIT FILLED CHRISTIAN IS HELL’S WORST NIGHTMARE!

“But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you.” (John 16:7, NLT)

“God raised Jesus from the dead, and we are all witnesses of this. Now he is exalted to the place of highest honor in heaven, at God's right hand. And the Father, as he had promised, gave him the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us, just as you see and hear today.” (Acts 2:32-33, NLT)

