

Ten Virgins Parable Gospel Activity

READ: Matthew 25:1-13

DISCUSS: Jesus uses this story to tell us that we must always be ready. Like the bridesmaids, we know that Jesus will come again, but we do not know the exact day or time. The wise bridesmaids kept themselves ready so that they were not taken by surprise when the bridegroom finally arrived.

How can we keep ourselves ready for when Jesus returns? If we can live each day as well as possible and make each day our best, then we will always be ready to greet Jesus when he comes. By trying to be good and to live as Jesus taught us, we will be like the wise bridesmaids who kept their lamps burning, and be ready for Jesus when he comes.

Create your own lamp with salt dough.

This is what lamps in the time of Jesus looked like.

Salt Dough Recipe:

- 1 cup of regular table salt
- 1 cup of flour
- 1/2 cup of water (may add more)

- In a large bowl, combine the salt and the flour
- Make a well in the salt/flour mixture and add the water
- Knead until smooth and shape into a ball

NOTE: Dough may be made a day or two in advance. When not in use, wrap well in plastic or store in an airtight container.

Instructions:

- Have children create their own small lamp. Try not to let these get too thick or they will take too long to dry.
- After basic lamp shape is made, let children use a toothpick to create designs in their lamps.
- Place on cookie sheet and bake at 200* until completely dry. This may take a few hours. The next morning kids will have dried lamps of their very own.

