

Week beginning November 8th

Kingdom Waiting

Opening Questions

- How good are you at planning ahead? Do you like to be well organised or is your attitude more relaxed?
- When you think about Jesus' return, what feelings or emotions do you experience?

Getting into the text

Read Matthew 25:1-13

- Why were five of the bridesmaids described as 'foolish'? What happened as a result of their foolishness?

- What about the other bridesmaids? Why were they described as wise?

- Who does the bridegroom in the parable represent? What about the banquet?

- What do you think Jesus wanted his disciples to learn from this parable?

Applying the Bible to your life

- The wise bridesmaids were prepared and ready for the bridegroom's return. What do you think being prepared and ready might look like in your life?

- How would you answer someone who says, 'I don't need to turn to Jesus now. There's plenty of time. I'll think about it and decide later.'

Something to pray about

Peter writes, **'Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming.'**

- Ask Jesus to help you to stay close to him so that you are ready for his return.
- Pray for those you know who need to respond to Jesus' invitation to follow him.
- Pray for St Philips as it reaches out to the community with the good news of the kingdom.