



Daily Reflections

November 12, 2017

Scripture

Matthew 25: 1-13

Jesus told his disciples this parable:

"The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.

Five of them were foolish and five were wise.

The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with them,

but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps.

Since the bridegroom was long delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

At midnight, there was a cry,

'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'

Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps.

The foolish ones said to the wise,

'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'

But the wise ones replied,

'No, for there may not be enough for us and you.

Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.'

While they went off to buy it,

the bridegroom came

and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him.

Then the door was locked.

Afterwards the other virgins came and said,

'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!'
But he said in reply,
'Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.'
Therefore, stay awake,
for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Our Scripture Reflection

There are some I am sure upon hearing Jesus' parable who will conclude: "It's not fair, it's just not fair!" They will wonder why those virgins with an abundance of oil did not share with those who did not have sufficient oil. Such misplaced compassion has no place in Jesus' parable. As stewards in the Lord's Kingdom we are expected to produce and be prepared for His return at the end of time. We must do the work assigned to us and be prepared to give an accounting of the use of our time and service. When we do what is required of us then we are fulfilling our duty and deserve no smelly stickers or pats on the back!

Food for your Journey

You have to rely on your preparation. You got to really be passionate and try to prepare more than anyone else, and put yourself in a position to succeed, and when the moment comes, you got to enjoy, relax, breathe and rely on your preparation so that you can perform, and not be anxious or filled with doubt.

--Steve Nash, NBA player.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, Help me to be faithful to the good work You have given me to do in this life as Your disciple. When my time of service comes to an end, may I have an abundant harvest to humbly offer You for the honor of being Your disciple. Amen.