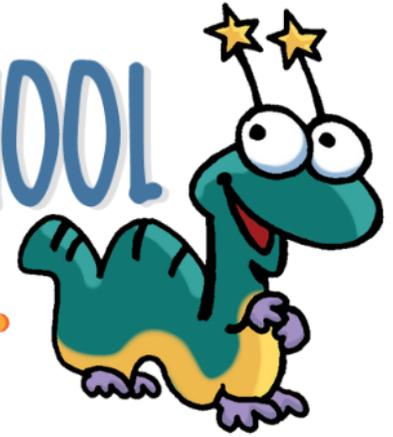


# SPARK SUNDAY SCHOOL

ACTIVATE FAITH

## UPPER ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION



Jesus Teaches: Through the Parable of the 10 Bridesmaids

Lesson Focus: **Watch for Jesus.**

Scripture Reference: **Matthew 25:1-13**

Spark Story Bible Pg. 314

### GATHER

Check In with your High & Low for today/this week.

**Question #1:** Have you ever been to a wedding? If so, what was the experience like?

At weddings the bride often has a group of friends that are important to her and support her. They are called the bridesmaids. Today's story is about ten bridesmaids. Jesus told stories about foolish people and wise people. Which is good, because sometimes we are foolish and sometimes we are wise. We all have a place in Jesus' stories. The good news is that Jesus loves us when we're foolish just as much as when we're wise. God's love for us never changes!

**Question #2:** In the story, the bridesmaids were so excited that they ran down the road. What would you run to see?

### STORY

Dear Jesus, Wake us up to be ready for your good news. Amen.

Look up **Matthew 25:1-13** in the **NRSV** and listen along on our website. Or turn to **page 314** in the **Spark Story Bible**. Listen for three words:

**Wise                  Foolish                  Bridesmaids**

**Jesus wants us to be ready for him to come meet us again. Jesus is like a light to the world!**

**Reflection Questions** Discuss these with a family member or friend.

- Is anything at your house always ready to go? (Backpacks, shopping bags, car books or games, beach bag, first aid kit, and so on.)
- What have you missed out on because you weren't there when something happened?
- Jesus told this story to remind people to be ready for God at all times. Who helps you to be ready to see God in your life?
- I wonder why the five bridesmaids with the oil didn't share with the other bridesmaids.

### RESPOND

- Check out the "I can get ready!" section of your activity leaflet.
- Sing "This little light of mine." If you don't know this song, look it up online.
- Make a plan to help you get ready for Thanksgiving. Make a list of everything you want to have happen with Thanksgiving Day. What are the most important parts of this holiday (the essentials)? Highlight these parts of your list. How can you make sure the essentials can happen?

# MEMORY VERSE

Look up **Matthew 25:2** This is our Memory Verse for today.

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*Five of them were foolish, and five were wise.*

**Question:** Does your family have emergency plans set up in case of things like fire or if you get separated from one another? As a family, make plans to keep you prepared for unforeseen events. For example, in case we're out of the house, can't reach each other by phone and have to meet somewhere, where should we go? How will we know when to meet? Do a web search for "emergency preparedness" to find more ideas.

# FAITH IN ACTION

## SEND

### Responding to God's Word

*These are ways God uses us to come back for others!  
Sometimes the best way to come back is to go out!*

To: \_\_\_\_\_ From: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I want to:

- \_\_\_ Play flashlight tag
- \_\_\_ List five wise things you've done this week and thank God for wisdoms.
- \_\_\_ On your next family outing, ask how you can help get ready.
- \_\_\_ Light a candle with you.
- \_\_\_ Listen to a story in the dark
- \_\_\_ Write out the Memory Verse & doodle around it in your Faith Formation Journal
- \_\_\_ Write out the Memory Verse and place it somewhere you will see it often
- \_\_\_ Give you a big hug!
- \_\_\_ Invite you to worship with you (outside or online) or invite them to Sunday School with you
- \_\_\_ Pray for \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ Say "I'm sorry"
- \_\_\_ Read this story again in my Bible      \_\_\_ My own idea: \_\_\_\_\_

## PRAY

**Dear God, Thank you for giving me the light of Jesus. Help me to shine everywhere I go. Amen.**