

## **“Fresh Oil”**

**Start Talking: Share about your week with others. What’s going well? What’s something we can be praying together about?**

**Key Scripture: Read the following together.** *“Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. 2 Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish. 3 Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. 5 But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. 6 “And at midnight a cry was heard: ‘Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!’ 7 Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. 8 And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ 9 But the wise answered, saying, ‘No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.’ 10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut. 11 “Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open to us!’ 12 But he answered and said, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ 13 “Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour [b]in which the Son of Man is coming.” Matthew 25:1-13 (NKJV)*

1. What does this scripture tell me about me?
2. What does this scripture tell me about God?

**Start Sharing: Choose a question (or several) to create openness and discussion.**

- What does the oil in the parable symbolize, and why is it significant that some had enough while others did not?
- Discuss the dangers of being like the 'foolish virgins' who were unprepared. What are some modern examples of spiritual complacency, and how can we avoid them?
- How can we ensure that we are not just going through the motions (having the lamp but no oil), but are actively seeking and maintaining deep spiritual connection with the Lord?

**Start Praying: Pray together and for one another.**

*“Father, we thank you for the fresh oil Your Spirit. We know the hour is late and that we are not called to be children of darkness but children of light. Father, fill us with the presence of the Holy Spirit. Jesus, help us become more and more like you. Father, raise up wise people who store oil. In Jesus’ name, amen!”*