

Ready and Waiting

Describe a time when your cell phone ran out of battery power.

Read Matthew 25:1-13.

1. What does Christ's parable of the 10 bridesmaids/virgins illustrate?
 - A. Everyone runs out of power sometimes.
 - B. It's about having oil for your lamp.
 - C. Weddings are always about the females.
 - D. It's a parable about God's kingdom.
 - E. The wise and foolish both fall asleep.
 - F. We have a part to play in order to be ready for Christ's return.
 - G. Nobody knows exactly when Jesus will return.
 - H. What we do (or don't do) now matters.
 - I. Other.

2. What's the difference between the foolish and wise bridesmaids?
 - A. Nothing.
 - B. Everything.
 - C. Intelligence levels.
 - D. Good looking versus good thinking.
 - E. The color of their hair.
 - F. Sexual purity.
 - G. Planning in advance.
 - H. Having adequate oil to last.
 - I. Other.

3. Why did the bridesmaids sleep?
 - A. The wise ones didn't sleep.
 - B. They were tired.
 - C. The bridegroom was delayed.
 - D. Everyone was doing it.
 - E. They weren't all that excited about this wedding.
 - F. It was just a quick nap.
 - G. Everyone tires out eventually.
 - H. Other.

4. Why didn't the bridesmaids with more oil share with those lacking oil?
 - A. They were selfish.
 - B. Those with the oil had only enough for their own lamps.
 - C. They did share, but the foolish bridesmaids started to hoard the oil.
 - D. Some things you have to do for yourself.
 - E. The parable is about preparation, not unselfishness.
 - F. You can't always be bailed out by others.
 - G. There were plenty of places to get oil.
 - H. Other.

5. Why didn't the bridegroom "know" the five foolish bridesmaids (vs. 12)?
 - A. The bride, not the bridegroom, knew them.
 - B. They weren't present when the bridegroom arrived.
 - C. The foolish bridesmaids tried to dictate the wedding details.
 - D. They had become outsiders.
 - E. The bridegroom put a lot of preparation into this; they hadn't.
 - F. The foolish bridesmaids didn't know the bridegroom.
 - G. The bridegroom had a bad memory.
 - H. Other.

6. What's your main takeaway from this parable?
 - A. There will always be wise and foolish people in the mix.
 - B. Being ready is more important than looking good.
 - C. Don't put off until tomorrow what you can do today.
 - D. Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning.
 - E. A good wedding necessitates good preparation.
 - F. Don't ever run out of oil.
 - G. There comes a time when there are no more chances.
 - H. Other.

7. What would be your response if you heard that Jesus is coming right now?

8. What are you doing now so you are prepared when Jesus returns?