

More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: AOrdinary32x2017

Text: Matthew 25:1-13

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. 6 But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ 7 Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ 9 But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ 10 And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. 11 Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ 12 But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ 13 **Keep awake** therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Eye - B, Body - B, Music - I, Nature - S, People - B, Self - B

| Smarts | Images in the text/ interesting exegesis | Illustrations | SFX |
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| Word - Verbal/Linguistic | <p><i>Parthenos</i> = maiden</p> <p>Most of Jesus’ parables involve situations of unequal footing so this one stands out - all ten maidens are indistinguishable from each other except for bringing extra oil.</p> | <p>Watching out (<i>gregory</i> in Greek) is in the present tense - ongoing activity.</p> | |
| <p>Eye - Visual/Spatial</p> <p>MWD</p> | | <p>Strasbourg Cathedral in France has jamb sculptures on the south portal that portray this parable. The link is an essay about it. Here is a link to the Cathedral Notre Dame de Strasbourg</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Foolish Virgins, | <p>The “wise” maidens seem sort of selfish until you consider you cannot help another if your tanks have run dry. You need to put your own oxygen mask on first.</p> <p>Make an oxygen mask! Get a styrofoam bowl and thread some yarn through it. If possible, add some</p> |

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| | | Francesco Mazzola | plastic tube and attach a storage bag, which may not inflate. Place it over your nose and mouth and snug up the strings. Voila! You might want to take it back off before you continue speaking ;-) |
| Math - Logical/Mathematical | | | |
| Body - Kinesthetic D2 | | <p>What type of checklist do people have - for road trips? For going to work? For working in the yard? For going to the store? For taking a walk?</p> <p><i>I put this in BODY because of the physical preparation of finding items and having them on your person. Also, the stress response we experience when we discover we forgot something or need something not readily at hand.</i></p> | Spend the next week being aware of what ways you prepare for your day and compare that with how you prepare your spirit. |
| Musical MWD | | <p>See below</p> <p>Bruno Mars “Locked Out of Heaven.” Well, maybe not.</p> <p>We’ll Find it in You - Natalie Weiss</p> <p>When the Man Comes Around - Johnny Cash</p> <p>Wake, Awake (hymn)</p> | |
| Natural MWD | | | Make your own olive oil lamp! |
| People - Interpersonal D2 | The choice the five maidens made not to bring extra oil had consequences | “I believe in being prepared, and I bet you do, too. We are part of a culture that practically worships planning and | Break into groups and discuss a time when you “ran out of oil”. Share appropriately! |

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| | | <p>forethought and preparation for the unknown that lies ahead. I think it is why we get so angry when something goes horribly wrong: when the war goes badly or the budget is overspent or the emergency procedures turn out to be filled with holes: it looks like we haven't done our homework, like we're a bunch of fools who don't know what we're doing.” ~Anna Carter Florence, Day1</p> <p><i>(I just admit to not knowing what I'm doing and be done with it - D2)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jill Duffield in “Looking Into the Lectionary” at <i>Presbyterian Outlook</i> suggests that the oil that can't be shared is relationships! You can't transfer a relationship from one person to another, and when you really need a relationship you better already have it in place. | <p>In what ways do you carry extra oil with you? What strategies can you share with others that help you remain fueled?</p> <p>Decide on a simple way to be aware of your fuel levels for the next week and keep track of how it goes. Report back to one another and encourage success and support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you think about the prepared bridesmaids refusal to share? How does that fit into this scheme? Are we not supposed to share, or is it a plot device to get the unprepared bridesmaids locked out of the party? ⇐ Then, talk about this |
| <p>Self - Intrapersonal MWD</p> | | <p>This parable pushes us to search our intentions about our own preparation for the kingdom coming.</p> <p>“In Jesus' teaching, waiting or being ready never seems to be about chronological speculation or theological musings but about how we choose to live.” ~Mark Labberton, <i>Christian Century</i></p> | <p>Do we keep our spiritual oil filled? The wait for the Bridegroom's arrival may be unpredictable.</p> <p>Give everyone a little jar or vial of olive oil as a preparation and a reminder. See also <i>NATURE</i> and <i>PEOPLE</i></p> |

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| | | Like a lifestyle commercial? How about this one from Monster.com from the 1999 Super Bowl? What kind of life do you want? Or these from Liberty Mutual, comparing your life choices for you. <i>See also EYE</i> | |
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To the chorus of "[Senses Working Overtime](#)" by XTC (1982)

And there were
One, two, three, four, five
Bridesmaids working over time
Trying to keep their lamps lit; There were
One, two, three, four, five
Bridesmaids working over time
Trying to find some oil to make their lamps light,
Now the doors won't open
And the bridegroom is denyyyyiing.