

Unpacking the Preach

Date: 28th June 2020
Sermon Title: Get ready!
Bible Passage: Matthew 25:1-13

Introduction

- How would you describe yourself: someone who like being prepared or 'just going with it'?
- What things in your life take a lot of preparation?

Recapping the Preach

Take time to read the passage again, perhaps read it a few times from different versions:

- How would you summarise the key message of the passage?
- Is there anything in this passage that surprised you?
- Was there anything in the passage or preach that you found yourself resisting, pulling away from or wrestling with what is being said?

Stu began by highlighting the getting ready that goes into preparing for a wedding and that preparation is important and brings a lot of advantages into our lives.

- 'Failing to prepare, is preparing to fail'? Do you agree or disagree? Why?
- What do you think the different aspects of the parable represent: for example the oil, the groom, the bridesmaids etc?

Stu contrasted the foolish and wise bridesmaids and described them drawing from the wisdom of proverbs.

- Five of the bridesmaids were called foolish and not 'wicked'. What is the difference between 'foolish' and 'wicked'?
- Why do you think the five wise bridesmaids could not share their oil with the foolish ones?
- How does this parable compare with the following passages? 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, 2 Peter 3:10-12, Revelation 3:2-3.

Stu shared that the parable has application that we, as a church family, should get ready because change is on the horizon. We should: get ready and sort out priorities, get ready and embrace the uncertainty, get ready to serve in church life.

- What things can you do to respond to these three points?
- What keeps people today from being prepared for Christ's return?
- If this parable is true how should it change the way you live?

Response

- Is there anything from the preach and passage that you will be taking away to reflect on or work on?

Prayer pointers

- Pray for the our church family that we will get ready and be ready.
- Pray for those you know who are not 'ready' and do not follow Jesus.
- Pray for the transition the church will face as we begin to plan to re-open.

Additional resources:

If you need some additional resources the below websites are useful:

- <https://www.gotquestions.org>
- <https://enduringword.com>
- <https://www.biblica.com>
- <https://biblehub.com/commentaries/>