

Ready or Not

based on Matthew 25:1-13

When Jesus was alone with his disciples, he often told stories about everyday things and events to help them understand the kingdom of heaven. He told them this story about a wedding:

The kingdom of heaven will be like ten bridesmaids who are waiting at the bride's house for the bridegroom to come. No one knew exactly when the groom would appear, so they needed to be ready.

Five of the bridesmaids were careful and made sure they had oil for their lamps. The other five bridesmaids had their lamps, but they didn't have oil for them.

At midnight, someone cried, "Look, here comes the groom!"

All the bridesmaids got up to prepare their lamps and light them. The bridesmaids who had no oil said, "Give us some of your oil. We didn't bring any."

"Oh, no," said the other bridesmaids, "if we give you oil we will not have enough to get to the groom's house. We have another idea. Go buy some for your lamps."

But while these bridesmaids were gone to buy oil, the groom arrived at the bride's house and everyone left for the groom's house so the wedding could begin. When the bridesmaids who left to buy oil came to the groom's house, the door was closed.

"Lord, lord," they called, "open the door for us."

"Too late," answered the lord, "I don't know you."

Jesus looked at the disciples and told them, "Always be ready. You don't know when the kingdom of heaven will arrive."

Find ten things that are different in the two pictures.

