



# LET'S GO DEEPER

## SERMON NOTES The Blessing of Being a Disciple – Pastor Sarah January 19<sup>th</sup> 2025

### Matthew 25:1-12

“Then the Kingdom of Heaven will be like ten bridesmaids who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 The five who were foolish didn’t take enough oil for their lamps, 4 but the other five were wise enough to take along extra oil. 5 When the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. 6 “At midnight they were roused by the shout, ‘Look, the bridegroom is coming! Come out and meet him!’ 7 “All the bridesmaids got up and prepared their lamps. 8 Then the five foolish ones asked the others, ‘Please give us some of your oil because our lamps are going out.’ 9 “But the others replied, ‘We don’t have enough for all of us. Go to a shop and buy some for yourselves.’ 10 “But while they were gone to buy oil, the bridegroom came. Then those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was locked. 11 Later, when the other five bridesmaids returned, they stood outside, calling, ‘Lord! Lord! Open the door for us!’ “But he called back, ‘Believe me, I don’t know you!’

This scripture shows us a picture of discipleship. The 5 wise bridesmaids took on the personal responsibility of knowing Jesus and being ready for Him with oil in their lamps- this is discipleship.

### QUESTIONS:

1. What does apprenticeship to Jesus look like in your daily life?

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2. What does Matthew 25 show us are the consequences of not being disciplined?

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If you are a follower of Jesus, you are a disciple. What is discipleship?

Discipleship = being an apprentice of Jesus. BE WITH JESUS. BECOME LIKE JESUS. DO AND HE DID.

## 1. The Blessing of Being a Disciple:

### i. A Transformed Heart

Matthew 16:24- "Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to follow Me [as My disciple], he must deny himself [set aside selfish interests], and take up his cross [expressing a willingness to endure whatever may come] and follow Me [believing in Me, conforming to My example in living and, if need be, suffering or perhaps dying because of faith in Me]."

Discipleship is costly. A fully transformed heart is the blessing of being a disciple. We lose our selfish ambition, but we gain so much more- His heart and likeness.

## 2. Trials

John 16:33: "I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth, you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world."

### QUESTIONS:

3. Is your discipleship to Jesus costing you anything?

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4. What trials are you currently walking through & what is God teaching you?

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### QUESTIONS:



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**Following Jesus will come with trials. While we experience trials we get to grow our faith, trust and reliance on Him.**

**James 2:1-4- “Consider it nothing but joy, my [a]brothers and sisters, whenever you fall into various trials. 3 Be assured that the testing of your faith [through experience] produces endurance [leading to spiritual maturity, and inner peace]. 4 And let endurance have its perfect result and do a thorough work, so that you may be perfect and completely developed [in your faith], lacking in nothing.”**

**This verse shows us the blessing of trials- the testing of our faith leading us into spiritual maturity. Spiritual maturity is discipleship! When our faith is tested in trials that is when we grow in faith and in trusting Him- so yes, trials are a blessing.**

### **3. Intimacy with the Lord**

**Jeremiah 33:3- “Call to Me and I will answer you and tell you [and even show you] great and mighty things, [things which have been confined and hidden], which you do not know and understand and cannot distinguish.”**

**5. What can you do when your trial doesn't feel like a blessing?**

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**6 How are you actively seeking Jesus in your daily life? Think beyond reading your Word and praying.**

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**QUESTIONS:**







