

1"At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish and five were wise.

The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps.

- The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.
- At midnight the cry rang out: Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet

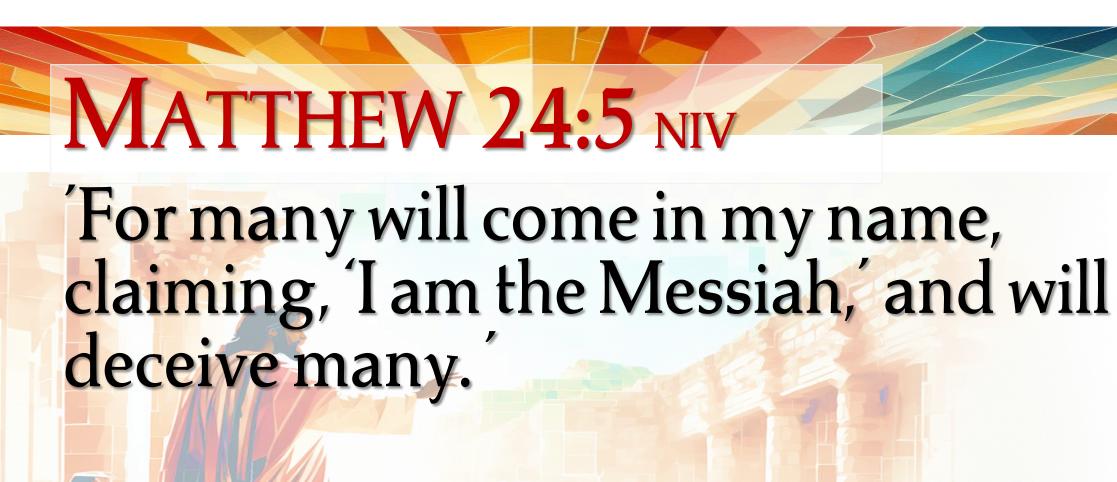
Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.'

"No, they replied, there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves."



10 But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

- Lord, they said, 'open the door for us!'
- 12 "But he replied, Truly I tell you, I don't know you." 13 "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.



MATTHEW 24:38-39

³⁸For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark;

MATTHEW 24:38-39

³⁹and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man

MATTHEW 24:44

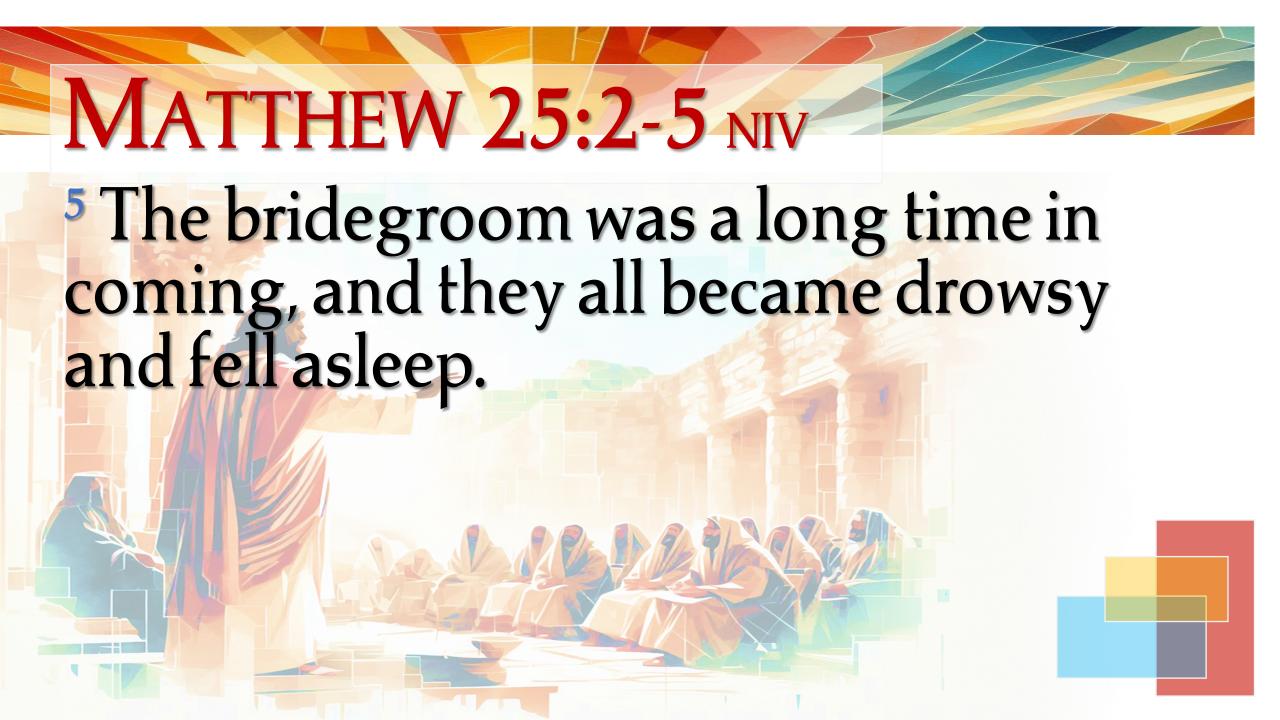
So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.



"At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.

MATTHEW 25:2-5 NIV

² Five of them were foolish and five were wise. 3 The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps.



1) To be ready, we have to live life powered by the Holy Spirit

When I think of all this, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources,

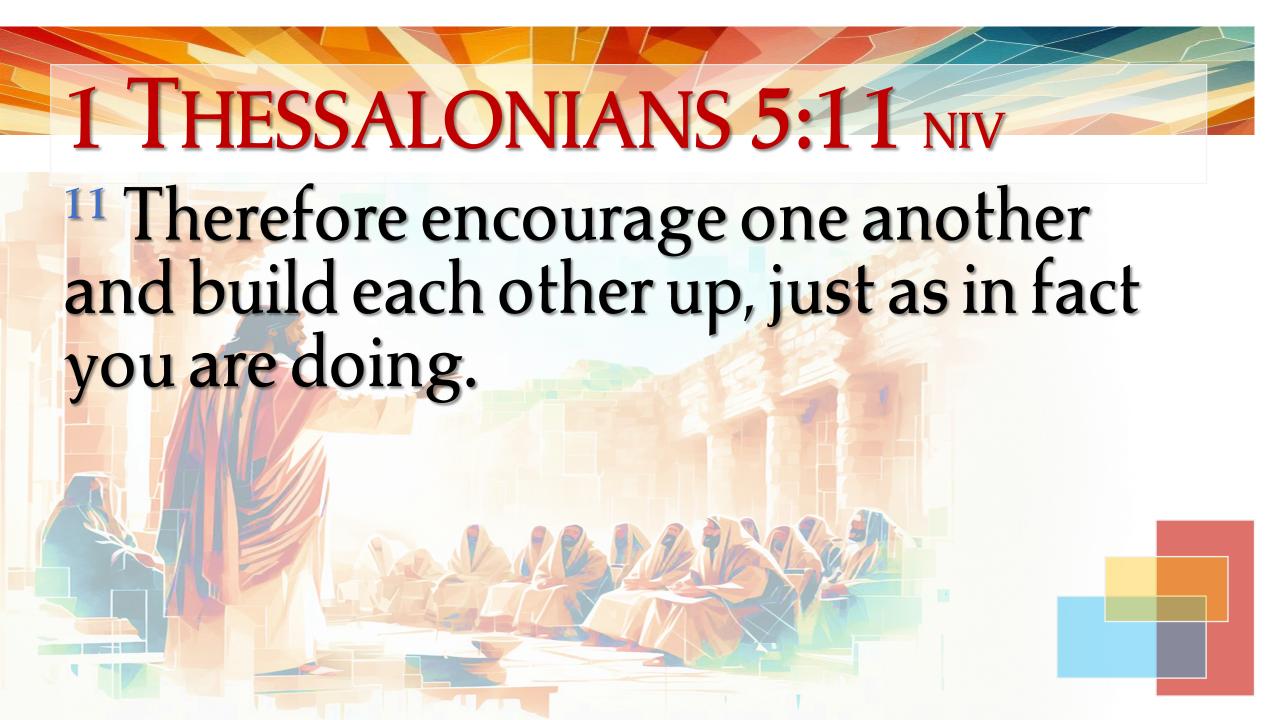
he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong.

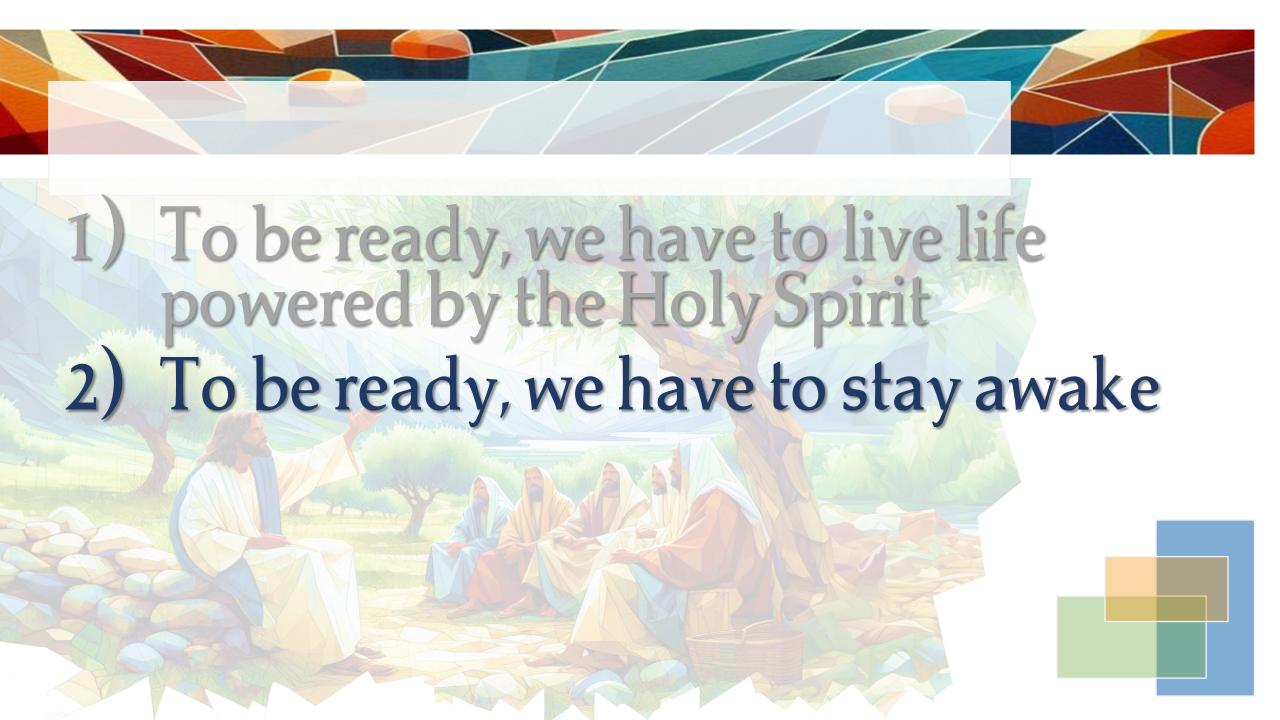
And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully.

Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-2 NIV

Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.





2 THESSALONIANS 3:6 NIV

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers and sisters, to keep away from every believer who is idle and disruptive and does not live according to the teaching you received from us.

2 THESSALONIANS 3:13 NIV 13 And as forward brothers and sic

¹³ And as for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good.





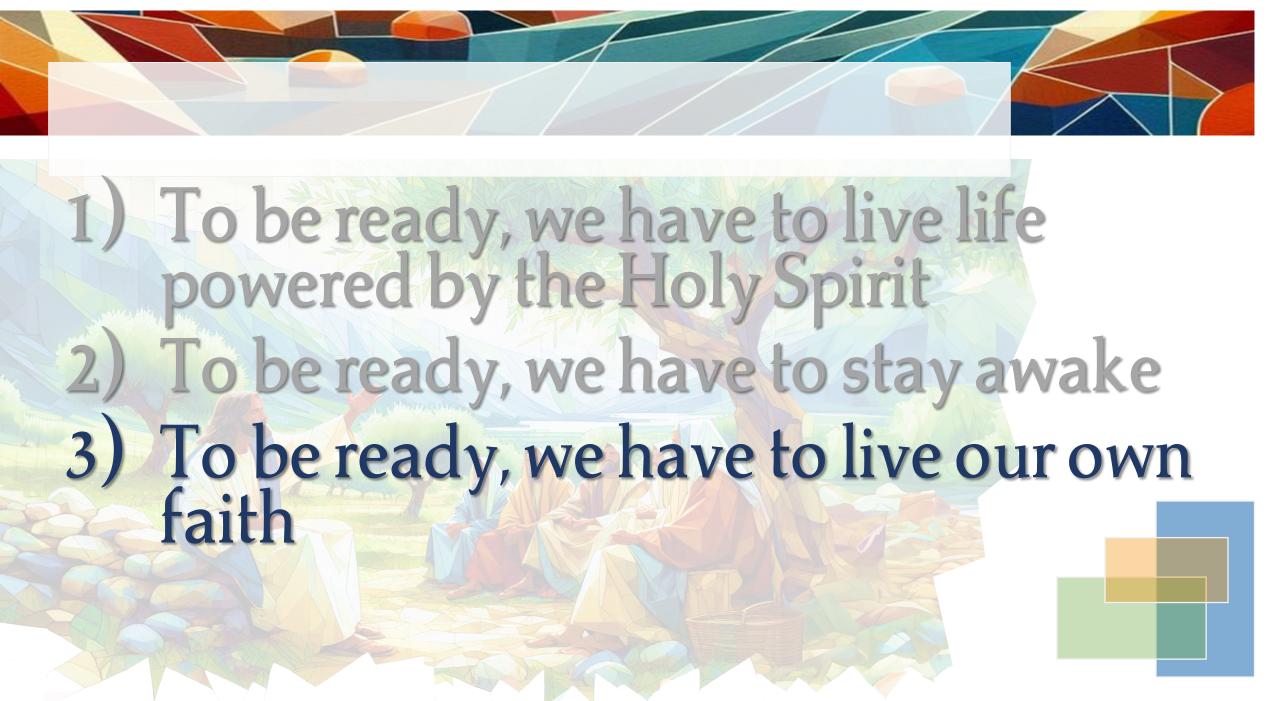
MATTHEW 25:6-9 NIV

"At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him! "Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish ones said to the wise, Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out."

MATTHEW 25:6-9 NIV

"'No,' they replied, 'there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves."





ROMANS 8:9 NLT

But you are not controlled by your sinful nature. You are controlled by the Spirit if you have the Spirit of God living in you. (And remember that those who do not have the Spirit of Christ living in them do not belong to him at all.)

EPHESIANS 2:8-9 ESV

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,

not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

10'But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

- Lord, they said, open the door for us! But he replied, Truly I tell you, I don't know you.
- Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

- 1) To be ready, we have to live life powered by the Holy Spirit
- 2) To be ready, we have to stay awake
- 3) To be ready, we have to live our own faith
- 4) To be ready, we have to know Jesus

MATTHEW 7:15 NLT

Beware of false prophets who come disguised as harmless sheep but are really vicious wolves.

1 TIMOTHY 2:19 NIV

Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness."

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