

Katie



MATTHEW 25 THE 10 VIRGINS

Scripture: Matthew 25:1-13

Open: Greet, Praises, Requests, Pray

Supplies: Burner, pot of cold water, large tin can filled with melted wax, waxed wicks, clothesline or something to dry the candles on. This lesson requires a lot of pre-work prep, but the kids loved it.

Read: Matthew 25:1-13

Explain:

We had to jump right into the story because we have a fun activity today. But this is a very important story, so let's talk about it.

One at a time, have the kids tell back the story a sentence at a time.

(Example: Kid 1: There were 10 virgins who had lamps

Kid 2: They were waiting for the bridegroom

Kid 3: 5 were smart and 5 weren't

Go until the story finishes

Teach:

We know that Jesus is coming back, but we don't know when. Throughout many of Jesus' teachings, he warns his people to be ready. What do you think it means to be ready for Jesus? (Allow for answers)

The first way we are ready is by accepting his sacrifice for us on the cross. We are all sinners and the wages of sin is death. We deserve death for our sin, but Jesus came and paid the price. He died on a cross, rose again, and he is coming back. When we accept his sacrifice and ask him to be our Lord-- think of like enlisting in an army. He becomes your commander and teacher and guide. We then seek to follow him and his commands the rest of our lives. We won't do it perfectly, but we are called to follow him. That's how we're ready.

Once we've made that choice, we need to persevere. That's a big word, can anyone tell me what it means? Yes, we need to keep working and keep going, even if it's hard. It isn't always easy to follow Jesus. It's hard to live the way he calls us to live and people may not be nice to us because of it. But he calls us to keep watch. To keep pressing on in our faith, even when it's hard. Because there is a reward waiting for us when he returns,

Activity:

Say, we don't use oil for lamps, but today we're going to make candles to remind us of this story and to remind us to keep our lamps burning for Jesus.

Have the station outside set up beforehand. Wax needs to be melted, washers need to be tied on each wick, wicks need to be cut to length for dipping. Having a bucket of cold water helps the candles to set faster.

Go outside and make the candles. (If you need to, find a YouTube video to show you how to dip candles)

While making the candles, ask what it means to keep our lamps burning for Jesus. How can they do this each week? Each day? How can we be ready for Jesus to come back, even if he is a long time in coming? Remind the kids that we can't do it alone. We need God's Holy Spirit to help us and friends to come alongside us and encourage us in our walk with Jesus.

During the candle-making, you can also teach them the song, "Give Me Oil for my Lamp"

Memorize: Matthew 25:4

Close in Prayer

