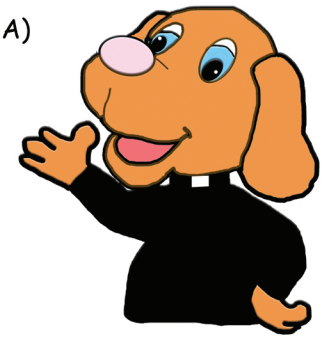
EXPLORE WEEKLY



A Story About Ten Girls

"At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten girls who went to wait for the bridegroom. They took their lamps with them. Five of the girls were foolish and five were wise. The five foolish girls took their lamps, but they did not take more oil for the lamps to burn. The wise girls took their lamps and more oil in jars. The bridegroom was very late. All the girls became sleepy and went to sleep.

"At midnight someone cried out, 'The bridegroom is coming! Come and meet him!' Then all the girls woke up and got their lamps ready. But the foolish girls said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil. Our lamps are going out.' The wise girls answered, 'No! The oil we have might not be enough for all of us. Go to the people who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.'

"So the five foolish girls went to buy oil. While they were gone, the bridegroom came. The girls who were ready went in with the bridegroom to the wedding feast. Then the door was closed and locked.

"Later the others came back. They called, 'Sir, sir, open the door to let us in.' But the bridegroom answered, 'I tell you the truth, I don't know you.'

"So always be ready. You don't know the day or the time the Son of Man will come.

based on Matthew 25:1-13

Let Us Pray

Loving Father, help us to mirror your teaching with our actions and words, so that others can see our love for you and believe. Amen.

Ponder...

Does the things I say and do show that I believe in Jesus?



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Reflection

'Be prepared', but for what? Being prepared for everything isn't possible. Life is so full of surprises, twists and turns, and not all of them are pleasant. We can and should prepare for predictable situations, but what about the unexpected? Today's parable can point us in the right direction.

The Bible gives us enough light to walk a few steps. It is only when we take those steps that you will see more. The word of God casts a new light on our experiences - good and bad; so, we can see them in a different way and to help us react to them in a better way. The word of God makes us prepared for anything by helping to teach us that we should be adaptive and flexible.

Having a copy of the Bible - which contains the word of God - is essential but not enough. We must read and think about the word of God, let it challenge our attitudes. In such a way we let it gradually form and shape us to become more open to God. Why? Because if we listen to the word of God, we will have faith in God; otherwise we might start to believe in all kinds of nonsense. As you journey though life, take your lamp and let the word of God guide you in His steps along the path towards Him.

Comic Strip

Use the gospel passage to create a comic strip by drawing a picture in each box:

Colour Me!

Can you help the bridegroom find the way to the wedding?

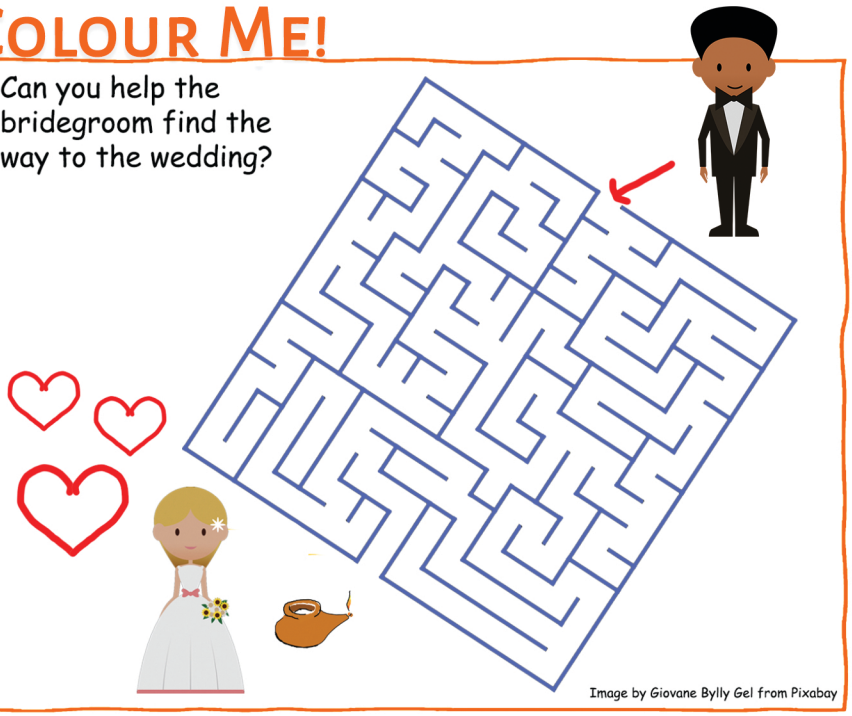
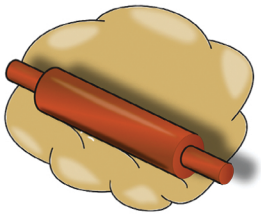


Image by Giovane Bylly Gel from Pixabay

Family Time - Shortbread

A simple recipe for a Scottish classic. Enjoy with a cup of tea. Add in some chocolate chips for a nice variation.



Ingredients

150g plain flour
100g butter
50g caster sugar

1. Pre-heat oven to 170C/150C fan/gas 3.
2. Put the flour, butter and sugar into a bowl, then using your hands combine until the mixture resembles breadcrumbs.
3. Squeeze the mixture together as a dough.
4. Roll out the dough on a flour surface until it is 0.5cm thick.
5. Cut the dough into fingers or a shape of your choice - circle, square triangle etc. Place the biscuits on a lined baking tray. Prick each biscuit with a fork and lightly sprinkle with some caster sugar.
6. Bake for 15-20 mins until golden brown.
7. Remove from the oven and leave to cool.

Crossword

U L A K P P B E M X V O Z X J
J A K I M O R S C Q D M D N E
K M B N I I I Y P E H F V Z T
P P A G F G D X S Z X L J I B
B S N D P I E N S N R R F P Z
N X Q O W J G M I E O I O K K
F O U M I V R A E G K O O W B
H D E O S E O V N E H J L E O
J J T L E V O Q R J T T I D U
F W U I O U M L E D L T S D Z
P A W L W O K E P G O W H I L
O T A W Z G O I J Z C O U N P
I C X P A H E A V E N D R G E
L H O Y U D W G F A K L D H Z
B Z L A S L E E P F R W P H T

Bridegroom	Midnight	Foolish
Wedding	Banquet	Heaven
Lamps	Door	Watch
Meet	Woke	Asleep
Oil	Kingdom	Wise

Fun Fact

When a man accepts his calling to become a Priest, he will go to a special college called a **Seminary** to study about God, the Bible and the Church.
It takes about six years to become a Priest.

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