Scripture

Matthew 25:1-13 (NRSV)

25:1 ‘Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. **2** Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; **4** but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.

5 As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. **6** But at midnight there was a shout, “*Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him*.” **7** Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps.

8 The foolish said to the wise, “*Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out*.” **9** But the wise replied, “*No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves*.”

10 And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. **11** Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, “*Lord, lord, open to us*.” **12** But he replied, “*Truly I tell you, I do not know you*.”

13 Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.