GETTING YOUR HEART TO SING

PREPARATION

We prepare ourselves for some things. Some important. Some less important.

And some things we avoid preparing ourselves for.

DOES YOUR HEART NEED PREPARATION?

Practicing Preparation

25 “At that time the kingdom of heaven will be
like ten virgins who took their lamps and went
out to meet the bridegroom. 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. 4 The wise ones, however, took oil in jars
along with their lamps. 5 The bridegroom was
a long time in coming, and they all became
drowsy and fell asleep.
6 “At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the
bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’

7 “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.’
9 “‘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.
11 “Later the others also came. ‘Lord, 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 25:1-13

Oil in Our Lamps

What does it mean for a heart to be prepared?

5 So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus,
"Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of
the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?"
6 He replied, "Isaiah was right when he prophesied about
you hypocrites; as it is written:

"'These people honour me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me.
7 They worship me in vain;
their teachings are merely human rules.'

8 You have let go of the commands of God and are holding
on to human traditions." 9 And he continued, "You have a
fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to
observe your own traditions!

Mark 7:5-9

20 He went on: “What comes out of a person is
what defiles them. 21 For it is from within,
out of a person’s heart, that evil thoughts
come—sexual immorality, theft, murder,
22 adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness,
envy, slander, arrogance and folly. 23 All these
evils come from inside and defile a person.”

Mark 7:20-23

Let us draw near to God with a
sincere heart and with the full
assurance that faith brings,
having our hearts sprinkled to
cleanse us from a guilty
conscience and having our bodies
washed with pure water.

Hebrews 10:22

God has conquered the evil in our hearts. Let that freedom be the song that we sing.

A heart that is able to sing to God in any situation.

“You have to be as fully prepared
for the dull game
as you are for the great game,
or else you won't be prepared for
the great one.”

–Red Barber

1/ Worship (Adoration)

2/ Thankfulness
(Remembering)

3/ Declaring God's promises
(Proclaim)

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

1 Peter 2:9

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

Romans 8:18

Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

1 John 3:2

