**Matthew 25:1-13**

“At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five 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 him!’“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.’“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. “Later the others also came. ‘Lord, 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.”

* Father, thank You for the way Jesus taught.
* Thank You for sending Him to come down, in flesh, to speak, to heal, to teach.
* Forgive me for listening to other voices more than Yours.
* Open my ears to hear You, and my heart to be obedient to act on what You speak to me.
* I want to be with the wise ones. I want to listen to You, and obey. I want to be prepared, calm and ready for You each day.
* Help me see that being prepared is sometimes less about doing, and more about being who You’ve already said I am. It’s also less about me, and more about what You’ve accomplished, that I can receive.
* Today, I confess to You that I’ve been struggling with…
* Thank You for releasing me from my past mistakes, and pushing me forward covered in Your grace.
* I miss You, when I go out on my own, trying in my own way to make something happen. Thank You for ALWAYS being the way, the truth and the life.
* I can always trust You, and that helps me release and rest.
* Teach me to keep watch Lord. Not only do I want to see Your coming, I want to see You every day, in everything.
* In my working, help eternity and the spiritual side of my reality stay in the front of my focus not just the present matter.
* In my recreation, let Your creation, remind me of how creative You are, and how all of the tiny details are there on purpose by You.
* In my reading, let Your word speak to the deepest part of me, come and heal, come and refresh, come and teach me Lord.
* And in my resting, I ask there would be lots of remembering who You are and who You declare that I am.
* I pray that You would help others around me rest in who You are. Please guide ...
* Most of all, I want to be close to You, talking to You, praising You and being with You each day.
* Please be with the persecuted brothers and sisters in Afghanistan today. Give them courage, and keep them safe. Thank You for loving ALL of Your people, everywhere.
* Give endurance to Lily and Dakota as they wait for You to bring forth their child in Your perfect timing.

**In Jesus’ Name,**

**Amen.**