

**Elders:**

Rufus Barfield \* Donnie McDaniel

**Deacons:**Paul Byas \* Chris Gorham \* Antoine Holloway  
Michael Myrick \* Sheldon Smith**Evangelist:**

Antoine Holloway

**Worship Times:**Sunday Bible Study/9:30AM      Sunday Morning Worship/10:30AM  
Sunday Evening Worship/6:00PM      Wednesday Bible Study/7:30PM**Meetings:****Monday Sermon Recap**July 11<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm**Saturday Discipleship Class**July 9<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00am**Elders/Deacons Meeting**July 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 5:00pm**Women's Thursday Bible Study**July 21<sup>st</sup> @ 7:00pm**2011 Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Mark Russell of Valparaiso, Indiana**October 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>, 2011**2012 Spring Gospel Meeting w/ Albert Dickson of Cincinnati, Ohio**April 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, 2012**2012 Vacation Bible School**June 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012**Prayer Requests (Continuing Health Problems)**Virginia Fowler \* Nancy Lingerfelt \* Andrew Madison \* Bruce McDonald \*  
Ann Wise \* Lewis Wise**Prayer Requests**

- **Monica Barbour's** mother has been in the hospital all week with a fever.
- **Jacob Staton** has surgical procedure done this past Tuesday.

**Additional Announcements**

- Stay tuned to FACEBOOK & the WEBSITE this week for news regarding the **Evangelist's** preaching trip to BARBADOS.

**Prayer Request (Unable To Attend Services Here)**

Anne Harrison \* Steven Chung \* John Okonkwo

**Prayer Request (Traveling)**

Antoine Holloway \* Tireray Staton

**Contribution & Attendance Figures**

June 19 <sup>th</sup>	\$4,837-Contribution	131-Attendance
June 12 <sup>th</sup>	\$3,045-Contribution	114-Attendance

**WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?**

Hear The Gospel (Acts 15:7) \* Believe In Jesus (Acts 8:12) \* Repent Of Our Sins (Acts 3:19) \* Confess Christ To Be The Son Of God (Acts 8:37)  
\* Be Baptized In Water (Acts 22:16) \* Remain Faithful (Acts 2:42)

**TODAY'S DATE: June 26, 2011****Wildercroft  
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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Updated Every Monday & Thursday

**A GOING CHURCH FOR A COMING LORD - ROMANS 16:16**

# Obedience: The Difference Between Wisdom & Foolishness

## Scriptural Text: Matthew 25:1-13

This parable about the wise & foolish virgins stresses the importance of being ready for the coming of Christ. The Bible teaches us in **John 14:1-6** Jesus will come again. For this reason, He wants His people to be awake & alert. Satan seeks to put God's people to sleep spiritually, so they will not be ready. Jesus said in **Matthew 7:24-27** the foolish person is the one who is a hearer only, but a wise person is a hearer & doer. Below is an outline of a few points from this parable.

### **The People (Matthew 25:1-5)**

The Story (Matthew 25:1). This parable teaches us the importance of readiness.

The Symbols (Matthew 25:2-4). Symbol #1 is the foolish virgins. They took no extra oil, thinking that they had plenty (**Revelation 3:17**). Symbol #2 is the wise virgins. They were prepared with an extra supply of oil. They did not depend upon past resources.

The Sleeping (Matthew 25:5). While waiting for the wedding, they all slept. The wise went to sleep prepared, the foolish unprepared (**Proverbs 27:1**).

### **The Plan (Matthew 25:6-9)**

The Preparation (Matthew 25:6-7). They trimmed their lamps. We, as Christians, must trim our spiritual lives in readiness for His coming.

The Pleading (Matthew 25:8). The foolish asked the wise to give them some of their oil. They were dependent on others

for entrance to the wedding feast. Each person must have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ in order to be saved.

The Personal (Matthew 25:9). The wise told the foolish to go & buy oil for themselves. No one can accept Christ for us. Everybody must be born again (**John 3:1-8**).

### **The Problem (Matthew 25:10-12)**

The Problem (Matthew 25:10-12). God gave the people in Noah's day time to prepare (**Genesis 6:3**). Someday, the door will be closed (**Proverbs 29:1** & **Isaiah 55:6**).

The Plea (Matthew 25:11). The wise could not open the door. Only Christ can open the door (**John 14:6**).

The Punishment (Matthew 25:12). Only those who are born again will gain entrance (**John 3:1-8** & **Mark 16:16**).

### **The Preparation (Matthew 25:13)**

How do we prepare? We prepare by watching!

Let Us Watch Our Character (1 Corinthians 7:1). Daily, we are developing habits, whether good or bad. It takes a lifetime to build good Christian character.

Let Us Watch Our Consecration (Romans 12:1-2). Caleb, though 85 years old, could say he had fully followed the Lord (**Deuteronomy 1:36**). God wants full surrender, full dedication.

Let Us Watch Our Companions (2 Corinthians 6:17). We are known by our associations. Choose Christian friends (**Amos 3:3**).

Are we awake? Do we have enough oil? Do not depend on past experiences or blessings. Each day, let renew the touch of God upon our lives. Let us learn to walk in the Spirit, pray in the Spirit, & live in the Spirit. As the Holy Spirit influences our lives, we will be ready when the bridegroom comes.

**--Antoine N. Holloway**