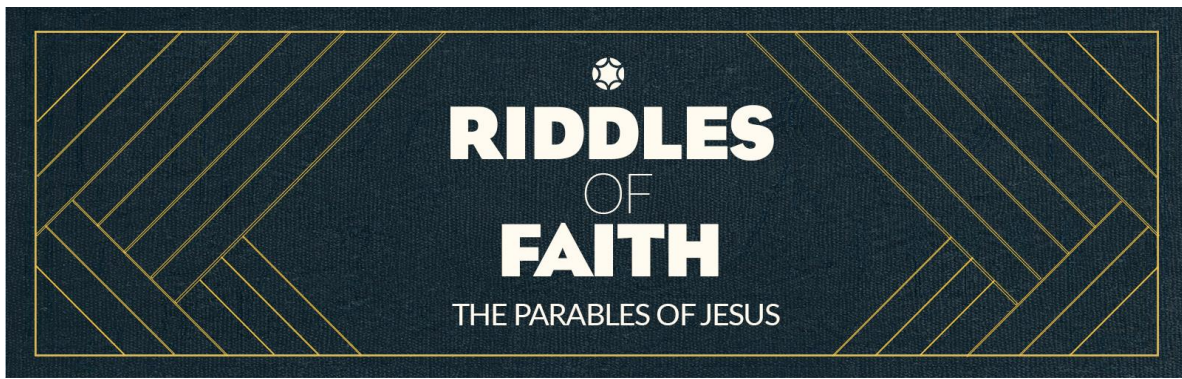




Riddles at Home
Family Companion Guide
Week Three // Running on Empty

Start with a Riddle

What can you hold without ever touching it?

[Answer: Your breath.]

Big Idea

Jesus wants us to live ready for him every day. We don't know when Jesus will return, so we can faithfully follow him today instead of waiting until later.

Read Together

Read Matthew 25:1–13. Jesus tells a story about ten young women waiting for a bridegroom to arrive for a wedding celebration. Five brought extra oil for their lamps, but five did not. When the bridegroom took longer than expected, only those who had prepared were ready when he finally arrived. Jesus told this story to remind his followers to “keep watch” and live ready for him.

Talk About It

- What did the five wise women do differently from the other five?
- Why did having extra oil matter when the bridegroom was delayed?
- What are some ways we can stay close to Jesus and live faithfully each day?

Being ready for Jesus doesn't mean trying to guess when he will return. It means trusting him, following him, and choosing to live his way today.

Try It Together

Have everyone finish this sentence:

One way I can be more intentional about following Jesus this week is

Remember This

"Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour." Matthew 25:13

Pray Together

Jesus, thank you for promising that you will return. Help us to trust you and follow you every day. When we get distracted or tired, help us stay faithful. Show us how to love you, obey you, and live ready for you today. Amen.

Keep It Going

Choose an activity to enjoy together:

- Have a flashlight night: Turn off the lights and use flashlights or lanterns to play a game, read a story, or have a family snack.
- Don't put it off: Choose one simple thing your family has been meaning to do. Perhaps it's writing a thank-you note, helping a neighbor, calling someone, cleaning something up, or encouraging someone. Do it today instead of "later."
- Bake something together: Gather all the ingredients before you begin. What happens if you discover halfway through that you're missing something important? Talk about why preparation matters.
- Have a family picnic: Let the kids help make a checklist and pack everything you'll need. Connect preparing ahead of time with the wise women in Jesus' story.