

# The Parable of the Ten Virgins

**Directions:** Spend a few moments reflecting on the painting *Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins* by Francken Hieronymus the Younger and then discuss the following questions.



1. What activities are the five virgins on the left engaged in? What objects are scattered at their feet?
2. What are the five virgins on the right doing? What objects are at their feet?
3. Compare the clothes between the two groups of virgins. Where are each of the groups of virgins looking?
4. Which do you think are the wise virgins and which do you think are the foolish virgins?
5. Why do you think that the artist chose to portray the virgins in the contemporary clothes of his time?
6. What event is being portrayed at the top of the painting within the cloud? What significance does it have on the main scene below it?
7. In the parable, all ten virgins fall asleep; therefore, the parable is less about staying

awake than being prepared. How does the painting illustrate this lesson?

8. Why do you think the wise virgins did not share their oil with the foolish virgins?
9. What can you do to be prepared for Christ, the bridegroom, in your own life?