



## WHY LOCK-IN?

### 1. To make sure I'm ready.

**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.”*

- > Some things cannot be obtained at the last minute.
- > Certain things cannot be borrowed.

### 2. To make sure I maximize this life.

**Philippians 3:20**—*But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ.*

**1 Peter 2:11-13**—*Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles...*

> Focusing on Heaven keeps me from making terrible mistakes in life.

**Matthew 6:19-21**—*Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

> Focusing on Heaven reminds me that my daily life has meaning.

> Focusing on Heaven comforts me when times are tough.

**Romans 12:12**—*Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.*

### 3. To make sure I keep my eyes on the prize.

**Colossians 3:2-4**—*Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.*

## 5 WONDERS OF HEAVEN

> God is there.

**Revelation 21:3-4**—*...God himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.*

See also **Matthew 6:9; John 14:2-3; Psalm 139:7-12; Matthew 6:10**

> Heaven is a beautiful place.

See **Hebrews 11:10; Revelation 4:1-6**

> We will be surrounded by wonderful, caring people.

See **John 14:2-3; Hebrews 12:23**

## > We will have a fresh start.

- A brand new body

**1 Corinthians 15:42-44**—...*The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.*

- A brand new nature

**1 John 3:2**—...*when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.*

- A brand new vocation

**Revelation 3:21**—*To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne...*

**Revelation 22:5**—...*they will reign for ever and ever.*

**1 Corinthians 6:3**—*Do you not know that we will judge angels...*

## > We will experience lasting contentment without fear.

**Revelation 21:4**—...*There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain...*

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*All verses quoted in New International Version unless otherwise noted.*

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# STUDY GUIDE: 5/26/24

Begin your group with prayer. Have one or two people share a testimony from their week. Keep it positive and reflect on the good things God has done.

## STUDY QUESTIONS

Read and discuss all of the scriptures from this week's message. Then, answer the following questions.

1. Read Matthew 25:1-13. What are the lessons of this "Parable on Preparedness?" Discuss.
2. Look how I Corinthians 15:42-44 describes our heavenly bodies. What does this mean to you?
3. What's the significance of Matthew 6:19-21? Talk with your group about the implications of Jesus' words.
4. Philippians 3:20 says that our citizenship is in heaven. What does mean? See also I Peter 1:1; 2:11-13.
5. Read Colossians 3:2-4. What does this mean? Why does it make a difference where we look and focus?