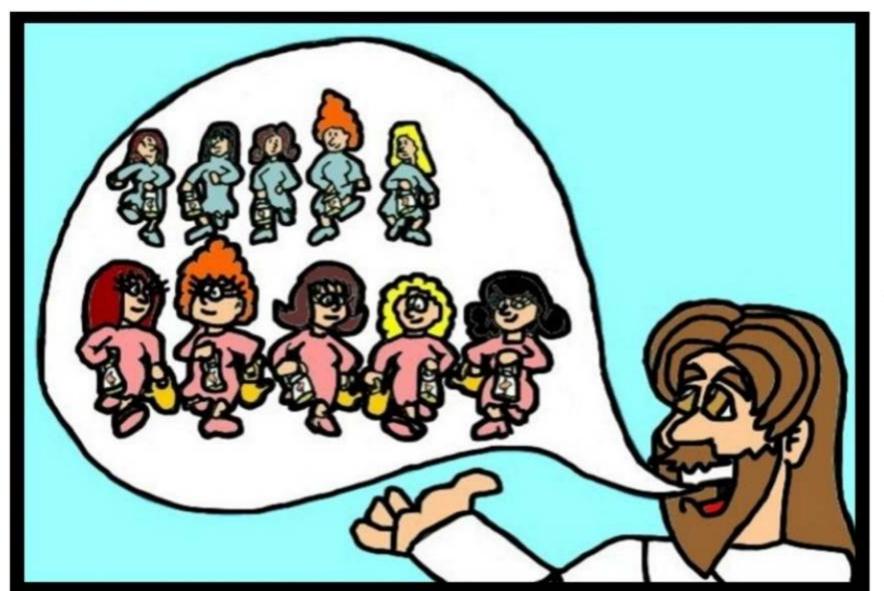
Wise and Foolish Young Ladies

(Based on Matthew 25:1-13)

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"Watch. You don't know when I am coming back," said Jesus. "It is like ten ladies waiting to go to a wedding. Five were foolish. They didn't bring extra oil for their lanterns. But the other five were wise. They brought extra oil.



Now the bridegroom was taking a long time so all the ladies slept. But at midnight there was a shout. 'Here comes the bridegroom! Come and meet him!' Then all the ladies got up and prepared the fire in their lanterns.



The foolish young ladies said to the wise young ladies, 'Our lamps are going out! Give us some of your oil.' 'There won't be enough for us and you,' answered the wise young ladies. 'Go and buy some for yourselves.'

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While the foolish young ladies were gone, the bridegroom arrived. The wise young ladies who were ready, went with him to the wedding feast. Then the door was shut.



'Let us in! Let us in!' cried the foolish young ladies when they arrived later. 'I don't know you people,' answered the bridegroom."



Lord, help me to remember that no one else can get ready for me. I have to make myself ready for when you come.