

The Ten Virgins

His disciples a story, which you will all be eager to hear, about some people who were watching for some one.

The Ten Watchers—We'll draw ten strokes, five on this side of the board and five on that. The story Jesus told was about ten young girls ("virgins"), who were waiting for a friend to come (read the parable). All held lamps (outline). The lamps of these five were filled with oil. The other five have lamps, but no oil. They thought there would be plenty of time to get oil when they needed to refill their lamps. Night came on, but the friend did not come. The ten watchers went to sleep. At midnight there is a cry, "He is coming." In a moment all are up, with their lamps in their hands. See! the lamps of these five are sending forth a bright light (make rays), and off they go to meet the friend. Look at the other five! No lights! no oil! They cry after the others, "Give us of your oil, etc." No, they must get oil for themselves (v. 9). While they go to get oil, the friend takes the five wise virgins into his home and the door is shut. We have no more than enough for our own lamps: "Go ye... to them that sell, and buy for yourselves."

Golden Text—Jesus said the words of our

Golden Text. He told this story to show that all His friends must be ready and watching for Him to come.

Ready for Jesus—A little girl was asked if she had given her best to Jesus. She replied, "I do not know just what that means; but I know I used to please myself, and now I try to please Jesus." Don't you think that little one was ready and watching for Jesus?

The Right Road—There is only one road on which we can meet Jesus—the road of right doing (outline). Never turn aside to the road of wrong doing (outline). Just at that moment you might miss Jesus. He might come and not find you watching. We must keep "dressed in our best," if we are watching for Jesus. Not our body dress, but dressed in good words and deeds and unselfish ways. We must keep our hands clean from all naughty doings, our feet from all wrong ways, our lips pure. We must take nothing into our body that would injure us. Our heart (the lamp) must be full of the Holy Spirit (oil).

Something to Draw at Home—Draw two lamps, one with rays, the other without.

Something to Remember—I should keep watching for Jesus.

SUPERINTENDENT'S BLACKBOARD REVIEW

**BE YE AS MEN THAT WAIT
ALWAYS AT THE MASTER'S GATE,
EVEN THOUGH HE TARRY LATE;
WATCH, BRETHREN, WATCH!**

Begin the review by singing Hymn 83, Book of Praise. Print the last four lines of the second verse, and have the Golden Text repeated by the school. Follow this with some such questions as: For what are we to be on the watch? (The second coming of Christ). Is it certain that He will come again? When will He come? (No one, except God, knows the day or the hour.) Now, Jesus, in the Lesson parable, pictures the watchful and the unwatchful. Bring out, by rapid questions, the outstanding points:—the starting out of the ten virgins, their purpose, the slumber, the midnight cry, the awakening, the trimming of the lamps, the discovery of the foolish virgins, their request, the refusal of the wise virgins, the coming of the bridegroom, the entrance of the wise virgins, the exclusion of the foolish. Make all as vivid as possible. Close with the question, How may we be ready for the coming of Christ? Make it clear that the readiness consists in characters fashioned after His teachings, and that each must get this for himself or herself.