**Reflections- 11-12-17**

**Prepared, Second Coming, Being Known**

**“Are you full of it?”**

**Matthew 25:1-13**

1. Do you agree with Pastor Glen when he says that “fullness” is good feeling whether it be a full tank of gas, a full electrical charge on your phone or a full pocket of money? Does “fullness” make you feel as if you are ready for the journey?
2. Jesus’ parable of the bridesmaids waiting for the bridegroom reminds us that we are all waiting for Christ to return. The difference between the foolish and wise maids are the amount of oil they carry with them, i.e. who is the most full. What do you think the oil represents? Good deeds? Faith? God’s Grace?
3. The bridegroom comes in the parable at “a time” that surprises everyone. Do you think you are prepared if Jesus were to come to take you home today?
4. The parable has the bridegroom saying to the foolish bridesmaids, “I do not know you”. It’s easy to say that “I know God” but it’s not so easy to say “God knows me”. What stops us from opening up to God? How well does God know you?
5. Pastor Glen thinks that the oil in the parable is God’s grace i.e. God’s love. He claims that he can never be told too often how much he is loved. Is that true for you? Are you comfortable in expressing your love to others? If not, do you know why?

**Matthew 25:1-13**

**The Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids**

‘Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, “Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.”Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, “Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.”But the wise replied, “No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.” And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, “Lord, lord, open to us.” But he replied, “Truly I tell you, I do not know you.” Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.