

Life Church Sermon Sheet:

Date: Palm Sunday, April 14, 2019

Rev. M. Dixon

Title: **Becoming Wise Pt. 1**

Matt 25:1-13, Rom 5:1-5

Going from being Foolish to Wise and helping others along the way via healthy expectations.

1. We are in our Last week of Lent.
 - a. **What Lent is** ... Preparation for a celebration of Liberty paid for at the Cross and brought home via an empty tomb.
 - b. **Matt. 25:1-13 Revisited- Being ready for Christ's return.**
 - c. **Romans 5:1-5 My Expectation for you to Ask God what big challenge does God want you to take on this year... [AND be happy about]. He gives us high expectations with high levels of support to reach them so that He gets the Glory. David with Goliath- or for that matter the Lion and the Bear... or Capturing Jerusalem...Or even Sampson with the Temple with no eyes... Deborah commanding an Army, Paul becoming an Apostle after helping kill Christians, What is your Challenge for this year- Remember Challenges help us to suffer, Persevere, develop character lead to Hope and finally our Identity of natural love in Him. My Challenge this year :** _____

2. What areas do you feel you need higher expectations of yourself? How can God be your coach?

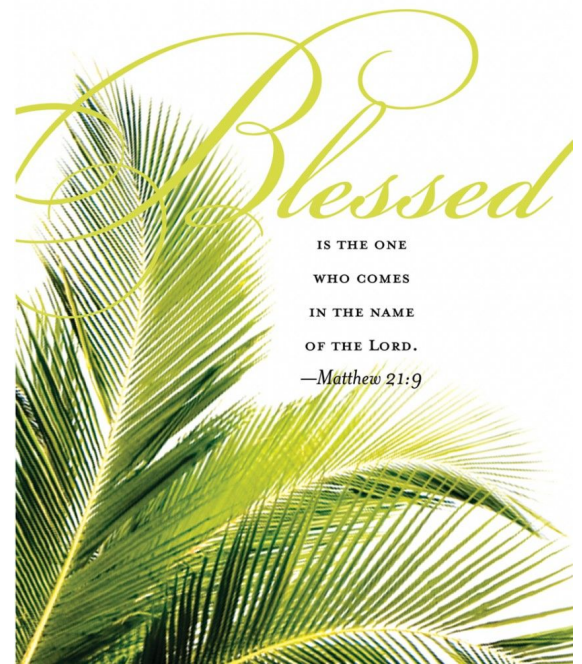
_____ Remember the growth mindset, it is not just big jumps and victories but small victories over time that build proven character... _____

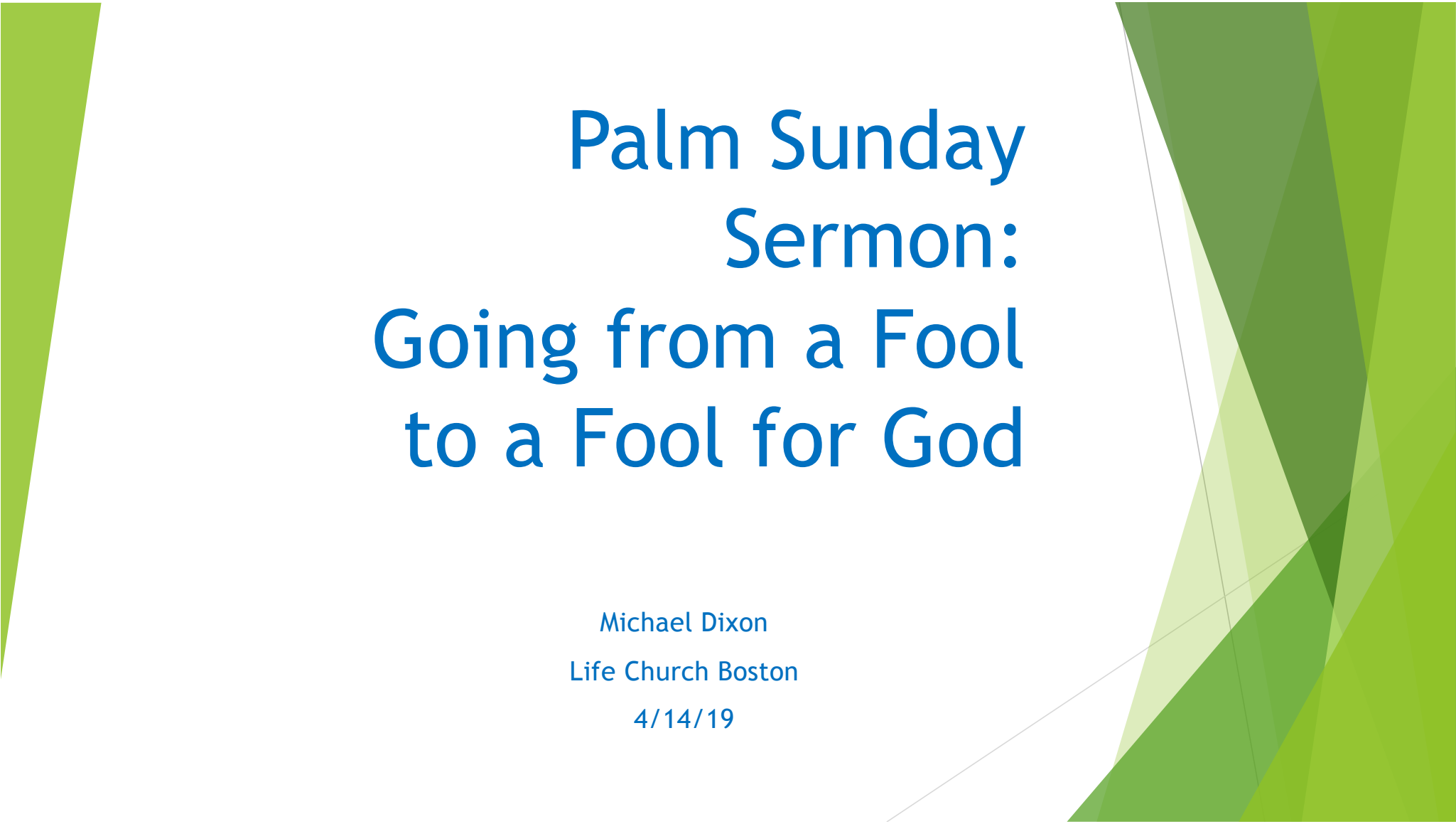
3. Why do you think low expectations hurt students/ Parents and youth so much?
? _____

4. What ways can we be legalistic or see people as problems versus image bearers who need support and prayer?

5. Prayer List: What people and/or areas of your life do you need to pray for regarding your oil for God?_

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____





Palm Sunday Sermon: Going from a Fool to a Fool for God

Michael Dixon
Life Church Boston
4/14/19



Palm Sunday

April 14, 2019

Palm Sunday



This is a day where we begin Holy Week, Celebrate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem...But it would not last long.



Hosanna means Save now! Imploring Jesus to save the People From the rule of the Romans... He would defeat Death, but in a way that valued even the Romans... He died for all not just the Jews.



The 5 wise virgins were on Jesus Side... and would be on it even after the Cross. The 5 foolish virgins may have come out to the wedding... Like on Palm Sunday, but were not there at the tomb!



Being ready means being real with God! This is Jesus warning when he returns... Having our internal oil... What can truly burn ready...

Matt 25: 1-13 ERV

A Story About Ten Girls

25 “At that time God’s kingdom will be like ten girls who went to wait for the bridegroom. They took their lamps with them. **2** Five of the girls were foolish, and five were wise. **3** The foolish girls took their lamps with them, but they did not take extra oil for the lamps. **4** The wise girls took their lamps and more oil in jars. **5** When the bridegroom was very late, the girls could not keep their eyes open, and they all fell asleep.

6 “At midnight someone announced, ‘The bridegroom is coming! Come and meet him!’

7 “Then all the girls woke up. They made their lamps ready. **8** But the foolish girls said to the wise girls, ‘Give us some of your oil. The oil in our lamps is all gone.’

9 “The wise girls answered, ‘No! The oil we have might not be enough for all of us. But go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’

10 “So the foolish girls went to buy oil. While they were gone, the bridegroom came. The girls who were ready went in with the bridegroom to the wedding feast. Then the door was closed and locked.

11 “Later, the other girls came. They said, ‘Sir, sir! Open the door to let us in.’

12 “But the bridegroom answered, ‘Certainly not! I don’t even know you.’

13 “So always be ready. You don’t know the day or the time when the Son of Man will come.

The Parable of the 10 Virgins

Matthew 25:10

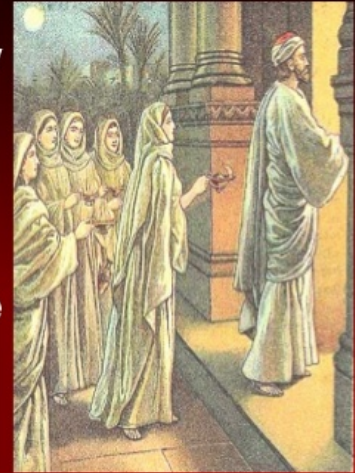
- The groom arrives, quickly enters the wedding feast
- The door is shut while the foolish are still gone

Matthew 25:11-12

- The 5 foolish virgins arrive later and seek entry
- Not allowed entry

Matthew 25:13

- Ties parable back to Mt 24:42



► New Living Translation

Matt 24:42 “So you, too, must keep watch! For you don’t know what day your Lord is coming.

The Fool is PROUD

1. He doesn't learn from his mistakes.
(Proverbs 26:11) As a dog returns to its vomit, so a fool repeats his folly.
2. He is sure he is right.
(Proverbs 26:12) Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him.
(Proverbs 12:15) The way of a fool seems right to him, but a wise man listens to advice.

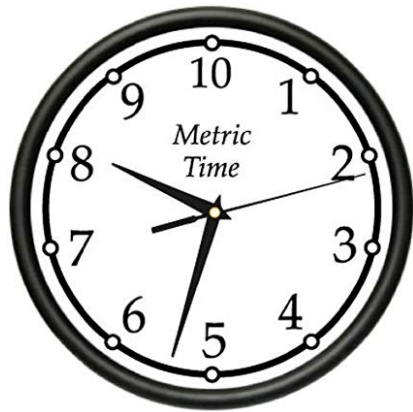
**A fool
says in
his heart
there is no
God.**



What is a fool?

The Bible is clear to talk about what it means to be foolish, and warns us to not be foolish...That is like saying to a poor person- don't be poor... The real this is that we are all fools, the wise are those that are humble enough to admit it and get help in TIME not to die from a source that can actually help!

What Makes us Different- Our Stories... Jesus Gave us these stories to help us to Understand our responsibility when he comes back. It is not about not sinning, but having our hearts right



- ▶ Our Stories and imagination Create our Reality. God added some details for us, like the 7 Day week, Hebrew Laws, Language, Marriage etc. But we have added to our stories to help us create civilizations, like at Babel...
- ▶ What makes us different from animals... one idea is our stories... We sometimes forget that most of our world's structures are created... Days of the week, Made by God... The Babylonians gave us the 60 minutes and hours... Napoleon had different ideas... Like Metric time... Also Money for example is built for trade but it is just a piece of paper with a value given to it by man, but that value gives birth to communities, manufacturing, economies, etc. Our stories, our Imaginations (based on our connection with God's) give structure, purpose, invention, to our lives... Like the 3 pigs our stories can help us to learn, especially through our sufferings... Which lead to Hope Faith our identity in Christ to a natural love of God and others that fulfills all we do... Eternal life begins at Faith, but Faith begins at Hope, and Hope begins with suffering... That suffering can end.

Today we are going to talk about the 10 virgins-Daughters who were looking to get married.

- ▶ Why? To be fulfilled biologically? To connect politically, militarily or economically? Or for the modern version for love? Polygamy wasn't just a personal choice it was a social one based on the preservation of a family inheritance. If you look at the Daughters as trying to look out for their economic interest, it was very important to take care of your business! To not be at the wedding was to not be where it was socially acceptable to talk with men and create contacts that could help you get married... The tossing of the bouquet is not just symbolic, the wedding was social connection that allowed the next marriages to easily form. To not be at the wedding was serious, and if you went to a wedding with the right family who could set you up for life, could be a missed opportunity. Think of being invited to Bill Gates or the Walton's family wedding..

