

OPEN

How are you with surprises? Are you good at keeping them? Do you go nuts when having to wait on one? Explain.

Mark 13:32-37

³² “Now concerning that day or hour no one knows—neither the angels in heaven nor the Son—but only the Father.

³³ “Watch! Be alert! For you don’t know when the time is coming.

³⁴ “It is like a man on a journey, who left his house, gave authority to his servants, gave each one his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to be alert. ³⁵ Therefore be alert, since you don’t know when the master of the house is coming—whether in the evening or at midnight or at the crowing of the rooster or early in the morning. ³⁶ Otherwise, when he comes suddenly he might find you sleeping. ³⁷ And what I say to you, I say to everyone: Be alert!”

DISCOVER

Parables take earthly examples to teach lessons about God’s kingdom.

What is the day or hour Jesus is talking about?

Who are we comparing the man who went on a journey to?

Who are the servants?

DEEPEN

Parables have something to teach us about the Kingdom of Heaven

What do you think it means to be “alert?”

What do you think it means to be “sleeping?”

DELIVER

As we engage the Living Word, there is always an opportunity for us to move forward with an application from the reading.

What gifts has God given to you which help you to stay “alert?”

What type of circumstances or situations leads one to be found “sleeping?”

How is the “*unexpectedness*” of Christ’s return a genuine blessing to the believer living in the world?

Did it puzzle you as to how the “Son” doesn’t know the time or hour and He is part of the Trinity? If so, does it help to consider the two natures of Christ?

How can the gift of encouragement serve to help others in being “alert?”

PRAY

If we are going to pray that Jesus would come quickly, what is the thing you need to pray about which is keeping you from wanting Him to return quickly? List that thing and pray about it.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

NOTES: