

Year B, Week 2

Text: Mark 13: 32-37

Idea: Get Ready

Hymn suggestion: Joy to the World

Items Needed: none, or you might want the figures for the master and servants.

Throughout time, God has been reaching out to people. He has wanted to live with us face-to-face, as He lived with Adam and Eve in the garden. But they messed up and had to leave the garden, and from that point on, the people were separated from God.

Last week, we learned that God's prophet Isaiah told the people to be expecting a savior – the light of the world, a child. We believe that child is Jesus. Isaiah told them to get ready for the baby Jesus.

In our story today, Jesus tells his people that they need to stay ready – because he will come back to Earth again sometime, but we don't know when.

He told his disciples a story about being ready:

A master goes away on a trip, and while he's gone, he puts his servants in charge of the house. Each servant has a different job – it's one person's job to watch the door, maybe to greet visitors or to watch out for thieves. That door-watcher will definitely welcome home the master when he returns.

Jesus said, the servants don't know when the master will return. Will it be in the evening? At midnight? In the morning when the rooster crows? At sunrise?

No matter when the master returns, the servants should stay ready so that they will not be asleep or unprepared when he arrives.

Questions without Response:

- I wonder ... if Jesus will return in our lives or sometime way in the future?
- I wonder ... how we can prepare our lives to welcome Jesus?
- I wonder ... if at Christmas, we are waiting to celebrate the baby Jesus from long ago ... or the returning Jesus from the future? Or maybe both.