

**PARABLE WHILE THE OWNER IS AWAY**

Mark 13:34-37

This discussion is for the Friday Morning Men’s Fellowship teaching series, “The Parables”, available at leadmin.org/parables.



Use one of these to get the group talking about today’s topic:

• Have you ever fallen asleep in the middle of a public event? Maybe at church? What’s the story?

* Do you have security ritual when you leave your house or workplace? Do you lock up? Do you let someone else know you’re gone?
* What is an example in your life of “getting caught by surprise”?



Go in-depth with these questions. Based on your available time, choose 3-4 that you believe are most thought-provoking:

• Read Mark 13:34. The story here is of a man putting his staff in charge of his house while he is away, each with an assigned task. Who is represented by the owner of the house? Who is represented by the staff assigned to keep watch?

* Read Mark 13:35-37. What is represented by the owner coming back to the house?
* Why is it bad if the owner finds his staff sleeping?
* Why does Jesus want us alert and ready for His eventual return?
* Read Mark 13:32. When will Jesus be coming back?
* Read Matthew 28:19-20. What is our task as the “staff” while awaiting Jesus’ return?
* Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-11. How has Jesus equipped us for our various tasks while awaiting His return?
* What is the expectation of how we will spend our time while the “owner is away”?
* Why are we to “keep watch” and remain alert?



• What is one way you might remain alert to Jesus’ return?

* What is one task you might work on this week while awaiting Jesus’ return?
* What is one way that Jesus has equipped you as a member of His “staff” to do His work while awaiting His return?