

# Understanding the Gospel



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B

## WHAT DO I SAY?

Imagine this: You are all snug and cozy, wrapped up underneath warm blankets in your bed. You're in that blissful state where you are drifting in and out of sleep. It's wonderful. You love to sleep. Suddenly the door-bell rings. Your new friend from school told you that they would be arriving that morning, but unfortunately, you have nothing prepared! Your room isn't clean. Your toy room is a disorganized mess. And there are no snacks in the kitchen. What would you do? How would you feel?

Jesus talks to us in today's Gospel about the fact that he is going to return someday and we should ALWAYS be ready - be prepared - to welcome him. We don't know WHEN Jesus is going to come. That's why we always have to be ready. This doesn't actually mean that we should never sleep. But we shouldn't get lazy with our spiritual lives - we need to make sure that our hearts are always ready. We can't put off getting to know Jesus because we think that we have all the time in the world. We don't want to get caught unprepared.

## TALK IT OUT

If Jesus showed up at your house today - what would you do? How would you welcome him?

What is your favorite way to keep your heart prepared for Jesus' return?

What is your favorite Advent tradition that your family has? How does that tradition help you grow closer to Jesus?

You can read the readings in their entirety by visiting [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)

