

PLENTY OF TIME

Read Mark 13:32-37

"Come on in, guys," invited Ben. "My folks are gone, so we can do anything we want. They won't be home until five today."

"Party hearty!" the boys yelled, charging into the house. Ben searched through the cabinets for an assortment of munchies. As the boys sat around talking and laughing and eating, Ben turned the radio to a station his friends recommended and turned up the volume. Then he propped his feet on the coffee table.

"Benjamin Louis Brown!" Dad's voice boomed over the music.

Ben jumped up, trembling. His parents weren't supposed to be home yet.

"What's going on here?" Dad asked after turning off the radio. "You know your friends are not allowed in this house when we're away." Dad showed Ben's friends out the door. "You also know we don't pig out between meals," continued Dad. "And what's with the music? Start explaining, Son!"

Ben felt sick. "I . . . I . . .," he stammered. "I didn't think you'd be home until five." Dad sent Ben straight to his room without another word.

Later on that night, Ben's parents came up to his room. "Your mother and I have decided on your punishment for disobeying us," said Dad. Ben didn't dare ask what was going to happen. He didn't need to. His father went into full detail.

Dad looked sad as he finished. He saw Ben's Bible on the dresser, and he picked it up and flipped through the pages as he continued. "What happened today reminds me that many people think they have plenty of time before Jesus returns," he said. "They think they can live in sin and do as they please, and then clean up their act just before Jesus comes. But Jesus will appear at an unexpected time, just like we did today." He held out Ben's Bible. "Read Matthew 24:44-51," he said, "and think about it. What will you be doing when Jesus comes again?" NEK

HOW ABOUT YOU?

When Jesus returns, what do you want him to find you doing? If you live for him each day, you won't be ashamed when he comes. If you ask him to help you live a godly life, he will help you.

**There's No
Time for Sin**

MEMORIZE:

"You also must be ready all the time. For the Son of Man will come when least expected." Matthew 24:44