


Week of June 18 - The Sheep and the Goats Small Group Lesson 11

## Connect

What are the differences between sympathy, empathy and compassion?

## Verses – Matthew 25:31-46 (CSB)

31 “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him,
then he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gathered
before him, and he will separate them one from another, just as a
shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He will put the sheep on
his right and the goats on the left. 34 Then the King will say to those on
his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; inherit the kingdom
prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 35 “‘For I was hungry
and you gave me something to eat; I was thirsty and you gave me
something to drink; I was a stranger and you took me in; 36 I was naked
and you clothed me; I was sick and you took care of me; I was in prison
and you visited me.’ 37 “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when
did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to
drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and take you in, or without
clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick, or in prison, and
visit you?’ 40 “And the King will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever
you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did
for me.’ 41 “Then he will also say to those on the left, ‘Depart from me,
you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his
angels! 42 For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat; I was thirsty
and you gave me nothing to drink; 43 I was a stranger and you didn’t
take me in; I was naked and you didn’t clothe me, sick and in prison and
you didn’t take care of me.’ 44 “Then they too will answer, ‘Lord, when did
we see you hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or without clothes, or sick,
or in prison, and not help you?’ 45 “Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I
tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not
do for me.’ 46 “And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the
righteous into eternal life.”

# Study

1. Who or what are being gathered? What are they being gathered for and what happens next? Who is doing the judgment? (vv.31-34, Revelation 20:11-15; John 5:22)

💡 **DID YOU KNOW?** The king's "right hand" is the place of highest honor in the kingdom, and a position of honor and power.

2. Who are the two groups? What are the questions they ask? Why is it that they do *not* know the answer already?

💡 **DID YOU KNOW?** Jesus refers to himself as the "Son of Man," as found in Daniel 7:13–14.

3. What is the fate of the two groups? Why does this happen? Is God just? (Romans 3:23; Revelation 3:5; Lamentations 3:24, 31- 33, 40-41)

☕ **DISCUSS:** What is the significance of people *not knowing* what they themselves did as described above? Is their motivation important? Why?

🏃 **APPLY:** What is it called when we do something instinctively? How can we make a habit of loving others? (Romans 12:2; Hebrews 10:25)

# Share

How have you felt since knowing the grace of God? How has such an understanding of God's love and the frailty of fellow man influenced your actions? What have you made a habit of now that you have come to know the Lord Jesus?

# Grow

Minister to one another through sharing praise and specific prayer requests.

- Pray that the Lord will change you to make loving others a habit.
- Would you like to serve this year at VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL?
  Visit: https://t-b-c.us/vbs23