**“THE GREAT SEPERATION”**

**Matthew 25:31-46**

***Sermon Review***

*What was the Main Point of the Sermon from Sunday?*

*What was the evidence of LOVE pointed out in the Sermon on Sunday?*

1. ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***
2. ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

*What is one thing that you learned in the Sermon that you did not know before?*

***SMALL GROUP LESSON***

1. What are some ways we label or categorize others?
2. What are some common examples of separating clean from dirty, fresh from spoiled, or good from bad?

**Matthew 25:31-46 (NLT)**   
31  “But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne. 32  All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33  He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his 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 creation of the world.   
35  For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. 36  I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.’   
37  “Then these righteous ones will reply, ‘Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38  Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing? 39  When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ 40  “And the King will say, ‘I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!’   
41  “Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, ‘Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons. 42  For I was hungry, and you didn’t feed me. I was thirsty, and you didn’t give me a drink.   
43  I was a stranger, and you didn’t invite me into your home. I was naked, and you didn’t give me clothing. I was sick and in prison, and you didn’t visit me.’   
44  “Then they will reply, ‘Lord, when did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and not help you?’ 45  “And he will answer, ‘I tell you the truth, when you refused to help the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were refusing to help me.’ 46  “And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous will go into eternal life.”

***EXPLORE***

1. What will Jesus say to those on His right? ([25:34-36](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mt+25%3A34-36))
2. Why will the group on Jesus’ right be blessed? ([25:35](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mt+25%3A35))
3. How will the "sheep" respond to Jesus’ words on that day? ([25:37-39](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mt+25%3A37-39))
4. What criterion will Christ use to judge people? ([25:40](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mt+25%3A40))
5. What will Jesus say to the "goats" on His left? ([25:41](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mt+25%3A41))

***APPLY***

1. How does our willingness to love reveal what is going on in our hearts?
2. What change does true faith make in a person’s life?
3. How would your behavior change if viewed your service to others as if you were directly serving Jesus?
4. In what way does this parable motivate you to tell your friends about Christ?
5. Does the criteria mentioned for separation (and our eternal destination) in Matthew 25:31-46 cause you concern? Why or why not?
6. What acts of kindness or mercy can you do in the next week? Next month?

**Additional Thoughts:**

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