

Clash of Kingdoms
Matthew 25:31-46
Study Guide

Big Idea:

Showing mercy is a sign that you are saved.

1. Read Matthew 25:31-40.

- a. How does the reality of a final separation to heaven and hell make you think differently?
- b. How has God “blessed” (v. 34) you? (see also Eph. 1:3-14).
- c. What are ways we show people many random acts of kindness and mercy (physical, emotional, social etc)? Discuss the concept that when you do these, it’s like you are doing it to Christ. How does that change your perspective of the people you are serving?
- d. Notice that according to v. 40, “*these my brothers*”, meaning, fellow brothers and sisters in Christ, are the primary recipients (see also Matt. 10:42; Gal. 6:10). What is your attitude towards the church and the Body of Christ? Do you ever struggle to show mercy to fellow Christians? Discuss.

2. Read John 17:21:

“...that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.”

Discuss the concept and implications of being one with Christ.

3. Read Matthew 25:41-46.

Discuss the concept that “goats” are cast into the lake of fire because they were not doing the will of God (see also Matt. 7:21-23).

Reflection

1. Take a few moments to thank God for the way He has forgiven you and shown mercy to you. (*Be specific*).
2. Confess ways you may have fallen short in showing mercy to others. Ask God for the strength you need to show mercy to others and to stay united in the Body of Christ.

Message Slides

Clash of Kingdoms

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I. The Great Gathering (v. 31-33)

³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ³²Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left.

II. The Blessed Sheep (v.34-36)

³⁴Then 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. ³⁵For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’

Eph. 1:3a

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,...

>on mouse click<

Eph. 1:13b-14

sealed with the promised Holy Spirit who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of His glory.

III. Showing Mercy (v.37-40)

³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?’³⁸And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’⁴⁰And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’

>each on mouse click<

John 17:21

that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

Matt. 10:42

Whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.

Galatians 6:10

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

IV. The Cursed Goats (v.41-46)

⁴¹“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’

⁴⁴Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’ ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Matthew 7:21-23

²¹“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.²²On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ ²³And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’

See image- Heaven/Earth

John 17:21

that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

Big Idea: Showing mercy is a sign that you are saved.

Reflection: (60 sec. each)

1. Take a few moments to thank God for the way He has forgiven you and shown mercy to you. (*Be specific*).
2. Confess ways you may have fallen short in showing mercy to others. Ask God for strength to show mercy and stay united in the Body of Christ.