

WHO do WE serve & HOW do WE Serve?

"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:" Philippians 2:3-5

"Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you. This is the essence of all that is taught in the law and the prophets." Matthew 7:12

Avoidance (Do no harm) vs Engagement (Do good) "Good Samaritan"- Luke 10:25-37

The Day of Judgement - Matthew 25:31-46

"They will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirst or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?' "He will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.""

The King's Judgment (vv. 31–33)

• Key truth: Faith is revealed by the fruit it produces

Surprise of the Righteous (vv. 34–40)

• Key Truth: Serving others is serving Christ Himself.

"If we love our brothers and sisters who are believers, it proves that we have passed from death to life. But a person who has no love is still dead. Anyone who hates another brother or sister[e] is really a murderer at heart. And you know that murderers don't have eternal life within them. We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters."

1 John 3:14-16

The Shock of the Unrighteous (vv. 41–45)

Key Truth: Life in Jesus is demonstrated by how we love others

"If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need but shows no compassion—how can God's love be in that person? Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions. Our actions will show that we belong to the truth, so we will be confident when we stand before God." 1 John 3:17-19

Heart of the Passage: Evidence, Not Earning

- Key: The **root** (Alive in Christ) is unseen, but gives life and brings fruit. "By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them... Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you" Matthew 7:16-20,23
 - The **fruit** (acts of love and mercy) proves the root is alive "Known" If there's no fruit at all, the issue isn't "not enough works" it's *no life in the root*.

Read Matthew 25:31-46

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come , you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you, since the creation of the world. 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 invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

"The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you have me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me

in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.'

"They will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirst or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?'
"He will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'

"Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."