



Living Out the Gospel: The Heart of True Discipleship



Explore how our treatment of others reveals our relationship with Jesus through Matthew 25:31–46 and related Scriptures.

Table of contents

<u>Introduction</u>	3
<u>Day 1: 🌿 The Coming King and His Judgment</u>	4
<u>Day 2: 💧 Compassion in Action Reveals Faith</u>	10
<u>Day 3: 🔥 Faith Revealed Through Compassionate Living</u>	16



Introduction

Welcome to your 3-day Bible study on the Gospels, focusing on *The Sheep and the Goats* passage from Matthew 25:31–46. This powerful passage paints a vivid picture of Christ's return and the eternal separation between those who embody His love and those who do not. It challenges us deeply: *How we treat others truly reveals our connection to Jesus.*

In the Gospel of Matthew—and throughout all the Gospels—we see Jesus teaching that faith is not just belief but is expressed in practical acts of compassion and mercy. The care we offer to the hungry, thirsty, strangers, the naked, the sick, and those in prison doesn't go unnoticed. Jesus says caring for them is the same as caring for Him. This intertwining of how we treat people and how we relate to Christ invites us to examine our hearts and actions: *Are we living as Jesus lived?*

These three days will help you deeply reflect on the Gospel's call to love and serve. You will engage with Scripture that highlights the heart of discipleship and encourages transformation in the way you live daily. Through devotionals, reflection questions, journaling, and prayer, you'll be inspired to see the Gospel come alive in your relationships and community.

Let's embark on this journey together, ready to be challenged, encouraged, and equipped to live out the Gospel truth that our love for others is intrinsically connected to our love for Jesus! 🙏❤️





Day 1: 🌻 The Coming King and His Judgment



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Your Verse

Matthew 25:31–33 – "When the Son of Man comes in his glory... he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats."

Supporting Scriptures

- *John 10:14 – "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me."*
- *Romans 2:6 – "God will repay each person according to what they have done."*



Day 1: 🌱 The Coming King and His Judgment

Devotional: Christ the King Judges by Our Actions

Today we focus on the powerful imagery of Christ as the King and Judge. Matthew 25:31–33 portrays Jesus returning in glory, separating people like a shepherd separates sheep and goats. This symbolism holds incredible significance. Sheep follow the shepherd faithfully, recognizing his voice and care, while goats are often seen as stubborn and self-serving.

What does it mean that Jesus will separate people based on how they live? It reminds us that the choices we make, especially in how we treat others, matter eternally. The passage highlights how closely our lives are observed—not just beliefs, but actions reveal our true relationship with Christ.

This passage calls for us to reflect: Are we truly following the Good Shepherd daily? Are our lives characterized by obedience and love mirrored in the way we treat those around us? Jesus makes it clear that the final judgment will reflect not just faith, but how faith impacts life.



Day 1: 🌱 The Coming King and His Judgment

Reflect and Apply

1. In what ways does Jesus' role as Shepherd challenge your current view of Him?

2. How do your daily actions align with being part of the 'sheep' that follow Jesus?

3. What areas of life do you need to surrender more fully to Jesus' guidance?



Day 1: 🌱 The Coming King and His Judgment

Journaling Prompts

1. Describe what it means to you personally that Jesus is both King and Shepherd.

2. Write about a time you felt Jesus leading you like a shepherd leads sheep.

3. List practical ways you can 'follow' Jesus more faithfully this week.



Day 1: 🌿 The Coming King and His Judgment

Prayer for Today

Dear Lord, help me recognize You as the Good Shepherd and King who sees all. Teach me to listen for Your voice and follow where You lead. Guide my heart to act with compassion and obedience so that my life reflects Your love and truth. May my actions today reveal that I am truly one of Your sheep, walking faithfully in Your way. Strengthen my faith so that I fear not Your judgment but eagerly embrace Your calling. In Jesus' name, *amen*.





Day 2: 💧 Compassion in Action Reveals Faith



Day 2: 💧 Compassion in Action Reveals Faith

Your Verse

Matthew 25:35–40 – "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink... Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Supporting Scriptures

- *James 2:17 – "Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."*
- *1 John 3:17 – "If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?"*



Day 2: 💧 Compassion in Action Reveals Faith

Devotional: Serving Others Is Serving Jesus

Jesus teaches that how we treat those in need is a direct reflection of our relationship to Him. Matthew 25:35–40 underscores this truth in a compelling way — acts of compassion towards the hungry, thirsty, strangers, and those in need are not just good deeds; they are acts done to Jesus Himself.

This intertwining of love for others with love for Christ challenges us to re-evaluate how we live out our faith. It's easy to say we love God, but love without action is hollow. Jesus emphasizes physical and practical expressions of care as inseparable from authentic faith.

We are called to live out our belief through tangible acts that demonstrate Christ's love to those around us. Let this passage encourage you today to see every act of kindness and mercy as serving Jesus directly. When we serve others with a heart reflecting God's love, our faith comes alive and testifies to the world around us.



Day 2: 💧 Compassion in Action Reveals Faith

Reflect and Apply

1. How do you view acts of kindness in relation to your faith?

2. In what ways can serving others deepen your relationship with Jesus?

3. Are there opportunities to serve 'the least of these' in your daily life that you might be overlooking?



Day 2: 💧 Compassion in Action Reveals Faith

Journaling Prompts

1. Write about how a specific act of service impacted your faith.

2. List people or groups you feel called to serve in your community.

3. Reflect on any barriers that might be holding you back from serving others.



Day 2: 💧 Compassion in Action Reveals Faith

Prayer for Today

Lord Jesus, open my eyes to see those in need around me and soften my heart to serve them with love. Help me recognize that in serving others, I am serving You. Make my faith alive through compassionate action, and guide me to be Your hands and feet in a hurting world. Thank You for calling me to reflect Your love daily. May my life be a testament to Your grace and mercy. Amen.





Day 3: 🔥 Faith Revealed Through Compassionate Living



Day 3: 🔥 Faith Revealed Through Compassionate Living

Your Verse

Matthew 25:41–46 - "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life... whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Galatians 5:6 - "The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love."*
- *Micah 6:8 - "What does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."*



Day 3: 🔥 Faith Revealed Through Compassionate Living

Devotional: Living Faith That Saves and Serves

The closing verses of Matthew 25:41–46 serve as a solemn warning and a call to action. They remind us that neglecting those in need is equivalent to neglecting Christ Himself, carrying eternal consequences.

This sobering truth invites us to consider how thoroughly our faith is expressed through love and action. True discipleship is measured not only by belief, but also by how compassionately and justly we live.

The apostle Paul and prophet Micah reinforce this in their writings, emphasizing the importance of love expressed through deeds and living humbly with God. Our daily choices matter because they reveal who truly owns our hearts.

May this reflection inspire you to commit afresh to a compassionate, just, and humble walk with God—where your faith and actions align powerfully as a witness of Christ’s kingdom here on earth.



Reflect and Apply

1. What does eternal reward or punishment mean in light of how you treat others?

2. How can you cultivate a faith that consistently expresses itself through love?

3. What steps can you take to walk humbly and justly with God this week?



Journaling Prompts

1. Reflect on how your faith has shaped your attitudes toward serving others.

2. Write about any changes you feel called to make in expressing your faith through love.

3. Describe what 'walking humbly with God' looks like in your daily life.



Day 3: 🔥 Faith Revealed Through Compassionate Living

Prayer for Today

Gracious Father, may my faith be alive and evident through love and action. Help me to never neglect those You place in my path but to serve them as I would serve You. Teach me justice, mercy, and humility as I walk with You faithfully each day. Strengthen me to be a living example of Your Kingdom, reflecting Your compassion and grace. In Jesus' name, *amen*.





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