

The Character of Justice
Week 3: Justice and Judgment
Matthew 25:31-46
Ephesians 2:1-10; Romans 5:1-8

1. What images come to mind when you think of God's judgment? Does heaven or hell seem more real to you? Why?
2. The parable of the Sheep and Goats is the last part of Jesus' last sermon. Why do you think he leaves his disciples with this particular message? In what ways have you minimized or ignored this message?
3. On what basis does Jesus separate the sheep and goats? Is Jesus teaching salvation by works? Why or why not? Read **Ephesians 2:1-10** and **Romans 5:1-8** for a broader context.
4. How do your own beliefs about the gospel shape (or fail to shape) how much you prioritize caring for the vulnerable? What would you have to give less to in your current budget and schedule to give more to the vulnerable?
5. To what extent do you make the connection between acting with compassion for the "least of these" and acting with compassion for Jesus?
6. Which of the following challenges will you continue to apply this week?
 - Think from the inside out, not the outside in.
 - Widen your table, instead of insulating and isolating.
 - Get closer to the problem, instead of running away out of fear or pride.
 - Spend more time building relationships than building your brand.
 - Do something that shows up on your bank statement and your calendar.