

SERMON SERIES: If/Then: IF we bless others, THEN God..

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Key Line

If we bless those in need, then God is honored.

Introduction

What are some things you have seen happening in the world that are just wrong and broken? Share something in your life or in the lives of others in the world that seem unfair or wrong.

Seek the Word

Read Matthew 25:31-46.

- These verses talk about judgment and the separation of the sheep and goats. What separates those who are righteous from those who are not (sheep and goats)? *(The way they treated the stranger, the sick, the poor, etc.)*
- What does the term “least of these” mean in verse 40? *(The people around you who are in need.)*
- What does Jesus mean when he says that they failed to notice him when they failed to notice the least of these? *(In serving others, we show our love for Jesus.)*
- What separates the faithful from the faithless? *(The way we react to the needs around us. We use the faith we say we have when we serve others.)*

Talk About It

If we believe that we are saved by our faith in Jesus, why does Jesus say that he will judge us according to our works, how we treat the poor and weak around us? *(We aren't saved by our works, but we do show our faith and growth by the way we treat the people around us. James says "Faith without works is dead." This means that faith that doesn't act on what Jesus tells us to do falters and struggles. This is how we show our faith.)*

When Christian people say they wish the Church would do something about something happening in the world, they need to remember that they are the Church. They must do something about it.

- What is God telling you to do? Where is he showing himself at work?
- How can you join in that work?