

Life Group Notes & Discussion Guide, June 15th, 2025

Series: **“Doing Things Jesus’s Way”**

Message: **“Living for the Least of These”**

Sermon Text: **Matthew 25:31-46**; Old Testament Text: **Psalms 82:1-4**; New Testament Text: **1 John 3:16-18**. Read **Matthew 25:31-46** as you listen to the sermon, then answer the questions below.

1. When you read **Matthew 25:31**, how do you picture this scene?
2. How do you think you will feel on that day when you finally stand before Jesus in person?
3. Why do you think Jesus used sheep and goats to demonstrate the difference between those who had pleased the King and those who had displeased the King?
4. What's the significance of the sheep being placed at the King's right hand?
5. Of all the things the King commends the righteous for, which of these seem easiest for you to do?

6. Which of these things seem hardest for you to do?

7. Will this passage make you look at people in need differently from now on? Why or why not?

8. Is this passage telling us we must *earn* our way to heaven? What is it telling us?

9. What will you remember most from this message?

Discussion Guide for Your Life Group Meeting

- I. At your Life Group meeting, first read **Psalm 82:1-8** aloud. It can be helpful to have several people each read one verse from their Bible. This helps people feel involved and can also introduce some interesting discussion if several translations are used. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
1. In **Psalm 82:1**, who are the little g **gods** referred to here?
 2. According to **Ps. 82:2**, why is God angry with these **gods**?
 3. According to **Ps. 82:3-4**, how should we be living?
 4. What has happened to the gods that they are defined in **v. 5** as lacking knowledge & understanding, that they walk about in darkness, & that the foundations of the earth are shaken?
 5. Jesus quotes **Ps. 82:6** in **John 10:35-36**. What point is Jesus trying to make here?
 6. What does **Ps. 82:7** make clear about all little g **gods**?
 7. Explain what **Ps. 82:8** is saying.
- II. Next read **1 John 3:16-18**, utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
1. According to **1 John 3:16**, what is the ultimate proof of God's great love for us?
 2. What kind of an effect should this knowledge have on those who've received it?
 3. According to **1 John 3:17**, what should be the deciding factor in whether we help someone or not?
 4. What does John tell us we lack in **1 John 3:17**, if we fail to help someone when we have the physical means to do so?
 5. How effective have you been in loving others as we are directed to in **1 John 3:18**?
 6. What tends to derail us when we try to love this way?
- III. Read **Matthew 25:31-46**, utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
1. When you read **Matthew 25:31**, how do you picture this scene?
 2. How do you think you will feel on that day when you finally stand before Jesus in person?
 3. Why do you think Jesus used sheep and goats to demonstrate the difference between those who had pleased the King and those who had displeased the King?
 4. What's the significance of the sheep being placed at the King's right hand?
 5. Of all the things the King commends the righteous for, which of these seem easiest for you to do?
 6. Which of these things seem hardest for you to do?

7. Will this passage make you look at people in need differently from now on? Why or why not?
8. Is this passage telling us we must ***earn*** our way to heaven? What is it telling us?