**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr April 28, 2024**

**Are You A Sheep Or A Goat?**

Matthew 25:31-46

**Key Truth:** Serving those in need is a part of our Christian discipleship.

**Distinction Between Sheep and Goats:**

1. The sheep are the ones who have been changed in heart and

 see everyone through the eyes of Jesus.

1. The sheep are acknowledged for their love and compassion for the hurting and marginalized in society.
2. In a practical sense, the sheep are just emulating the shepherd.
3. The sheep inherit the kingdom prepared by the Father from the beginning of time.

2. The goats don’t have the heart of the shepherd, and see the

 world through the lens of themselves.

1. The goats are judged for their lack of love and compassion for the hurting and marginalized in society.
2. In a practical sense the goats don’t reflect the heart of the shepherd.
3. The goats enter a place originally prepared for the devil and his angels.

**The Principles of The Story:**

1. Salvation by grace is accompanied by good works, flowing

 from the heart of God. Ephesians 2:8-10

2. True faith in Jesus Christ will express itself in a love for God

 and love for one’s neighbor. James 4:14-17, 1 John 3:16-24

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Thank Jesus for saving you when you were helpless. Ask God to open your eyes to see those who are in need around you.

**Connection Group Homework:**

Looking back at your notes, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

When you encounter someone begging for money, what do you typically think and why? How do you typically respond? How do you feel afterward?

Read Matthew 25:31-32: Given that Jesus is the One dividing sheep from goats, what does that imply about our ability to distinguish between them?

What are the sheep surprised about in Matthew 25:37-39?

How are you impacted knowing that by serving the hungry, homeless, and lonely you are serving Jesus?

Read Luke 12:13-21: What do you think it means to be “rich toward God”? Why was the rich man considered a “fool”?

Read Luke 19:1-10: What was the result of Zacchaeus meeting with Jesus? How did he express his salvation practically in the community?

What ways can you practically live out this sermon?

Where do you need to regularly be in order to see and serve Jesus?