

We were at an animal park, where we were allowed to feed the animals. One of my sons was happily and carefully feeding carrots to a sheep. The other son, still a baby, was in his father's arms. A goat came up behind my husband and grabbed the baby bottle from his pocket and began to chew on it, then saw a five dollar bill that he'd brought to the surface of my husband's pocket and ate the bill before I could even warn my husband of what was going on, while he proudly watched our other son feeding a sheep. I can't help but remember, the sheep and the goat when I hear this parable of Jesus.

Which one do you behave like, the sheep or the goat?

Are you a greedy goat?

Or like the sheep do you take only what you are given?

Do you trust God to provide what you need?

Or do you worry about having enough?

Do you share the gifts God gives you with others who are in need?

Is God calling you to be a shepherd and feed the hungry during this time of need?

4 days from now is Thanksgiving and our church is gathering turkeys for families in need. Can you ask your parents to buy a turkey for a family in need? What will you give to help?

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Response: The Lord is my Shepherd there is nothing I shall want.

Gospel

MT 25:31-46

Jesus said to his disciples:

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory,

and all the angels with him,

he will sit upon his glorious throne,

and all the nations will be assembled before him.

And he will separate them one from another,

as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

Then the king will say to those on his right,

'Come, you who are blessed by my Father.

Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

For I was hungry and you gave me food,

I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me,

naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me,

in prison and you visited me.'

Then the righteous will answer him and say,

'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you,

or thirsty and give you drink?

When did we see you a stranger and welcome you,

or naked and clothe you?

When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?'

And the king will say to them in reply,

'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did

for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me.'

Then he will say to those on his left,

'Depart from me, you accursed,

into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

For I was hungry and you gave me no food,

I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,

a stranger and you gave me no welcome,

naked and you gave me no clothing,

ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.'

Then they will answer and say,

'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty

or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison,

and not minister to your needs?'

He will answer them, 'Amen, I say to you,

what you did not do for one of these least ones,

you did not do for me.'

And these will go off to eternal punishment,

but the righteous to eternal life."