

DISCIPLESHIP GROUP CURRICULUM

Week 19 - May 6 through May 12

TODAY'S LESSON: *"The Least of These"*

TODAY'S PASSAGE:

34 "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 creation of the world. 35 For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. 36 I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.' 37 "Then these righteous ones will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing? 39 When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?' 40 "And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!' 41 "Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, 'Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons. 42 For I was hungry, and you didn't feed me. I was thirsty, and you didn't give me a drink. 43 I was a stranger, and you didn't invite me into your home. I was naked, and you didn't give me clothing. I was sick and in prison, and you didn't visit me.' 44 "Then they will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and not help you?' 45 "And he will answer, 'I tell you the truth, when you refused to help the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were refusing to help me.' 46 "And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous will go into eternal life."

INTERACTIVE QUESTION: What did you learn from what we just read?

1) Your actions on earth determine whether or not God will call you blessed and able to receive the inheritance in heaven reserved for you.

- You have an inheritance reserved for you with your name on it in heaven.
- How you treat the people God puts in front of you matters to God.

INTERACTIVE QUESTION: What people are in your life right now that you know are struggling in some way that you could reach out to this week?

2) The “least of these” according to Jesus are the hungry, thirsty, poor, and imprisoned.

- You must make time for the “least of these” because they matter to Jesus.
- Locating and helping the hungry, poor, imprisoned and the orphan is key to your unlocking your inheritance in heaven.
- Without helping the “least of these” you are limiting your blessing in heaven.

INTERACTIVE QUESTION: How much of a focus have you made the “least of these” in your life? What steps are you going to take now in order to shift your focus to better serve them?

POINT #3: Whatever you do to the “least of these” you actually are doing to Jesus!

- You can no longer see the “least of these” as just themselves. You must see them as Jesus!
- What ever you do to the poor, the hungry, the helpless you are doing to Jesus!
- Making time for the “least of these” is making the time for Jesus!
- You must ask God to open your eyes to see Jesus not just see the people who need help.

INTERACTIVE QUESTION: Will you ask God right now to open your eyes to see the people in need in your life as Jesus and not just people? Ask God to change your reality so you can unlock your heavenly inheritance and please God.

CLOSING QUESTION: What is one thing from today’s lesson that you will apply this week?

GIVING

Generous giving aligns our hearts with heavenly values and ensures that our greatest treasures are stored where they cannot be taken away.

Matthew 6:19-21 (NLT)

19 Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. 21 Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.

Encourage everyone to give their tithes and offerings.