## SERMON REFLECTIONS

## "You Did It For Me"

Matthew 25:31-46 | 21 November 2021

1. Matthew 25:31-46 is also known as the "Parable of the Sheep and Goats" but is it really a parable? Or was our Lord Jesus telling us something that will happen in the future, on Judgment Day itself? Discuss the difference between a parable and something that will happen in the future. (In your discussion, consider the earlier two parables in this chapter.)
2. Jesus includes a list of six basic human needs: hunger, thirst, stranger (being alone), nakedness, sickness and imprisonment (loss of freedom).

Why do you think Jesus makes care for others (especially those considered to be "the least") THE issue by which He evaluates His followers - instead of doctrine, personal holiness or something else?

What is God's heart in this matter? Share some Bible verses to substantiate your understanding of God's heart.
3. Discuss the difference between "salvation by works" and the "good works" God calls us to, as His followers (refer to Ephesians 2:8-10 and James 2:14-26). Our Lord Jesus is undoubtedly more concerned about the possible lack of authentic obedience than anyone trying to earn their salvation by works.
4. There are often debates in the church about the tension between the spiritual and the social aspects of evangelism/outreach. How can we balance both of these important activities?

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5. Consider our own lives - what are the opportunities we have missed to feed the hungry, to give water to the thirsty, to invite a stranger in, to clothe someone in need, to care for the sick, and to help those in prison? What can we do to be more intentional about caring for those whom God loves?
