

“Whose Needs Can I Meet?”

Based on Matthew 25:34-40 (NIV)
Rev. Roger Madden, preaching

Nov. 26, 2017

Matthew 25:34 - "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.

† **In this parable, Jesus is seated on the throne in heaven as the King, and he is separating the righteous (the sheep) from the wicked (the goats).**

† **Jesus will judge for God each one of us in accordance with our action, or inaction, to human need.**

Matthew 25:35-36

35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in,

36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

† **Each time that Jesus is helped, it is an action.**

† **I am blessed when I do simple actions for others.**

† **What simple action can I do for others?**

- 1) **Look at what I have.**
- 2) **Be thankful for what I have.**
- 3) **Be thankful for what I can give.**

Matthew 25:37-39

37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?

38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you?

39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

Matthew 25:40 - "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

† **When I serve others, I am serving Christ.**

† **When I stop sitting in the pew saying “They’re not meeting my needs” and start saying, “Whose needs can I meet?” That is when I, too, will know the joy of helping Jesus Christ himself.**

Applying Today’s Message to My Life:

† Who has helped me when I needed something?

† How would my behavior change if I treated each person as if he or she were Jesus?

† What resources has God blessed me with that I can use to help meet the needs of others?

† Who is someone I know of in need, even a family member, even if they got themselves in their predicament or went the wrong way in life, that I can help?