

Welcome to SPC Kids Corner!

Sunday, March 26, 2023

WHEN DID WE SEE YOU?

Matthew 25:31-46



Key Verse:

“Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”
Matthew 25:40

The Point:

When we serve others, we serve Jesus himself.

Making Connections:

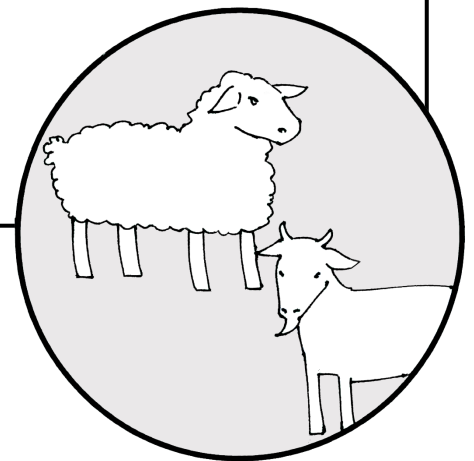
The Ways of the Kingdom

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Jewish Religious Leaders

Spiritual Practice:

Service



JUST A LITTLE BIT BETTER

A young boy realizes how sweet it is to care for others.

Let me tell you a story about a young boy.

He went to church with his parents and his two younger sisters every Sunday. He got dressed in his fanciest—and itchiest—clothes. His sisters wore their best dresses, hats, and gloves. Sometimes his sisters were even allowed to carry a small purse with a few coins and possibly a mint inside. They always shared their treasures with their brother. The young boy loved going to church, though he did get bored sometimes. He loved the music and the prayers. He liked listening to the pastor. He thought that the sermons were interesting but sometimes confusing.

He was glad when church ended. He could hardly wait for what was coming next. The young boy's mom made lunch every week. She would put a pot roast in the oven to cook while they were at church. When the young boy got home the house would be filled with the delicious smells of cooked meat, potatoes, and vegetables. The smell was so delicious he could almost taste lunch in the air.

The young boy quickly shed his itchy church clothes. He put on his carefully worn-in jeans and soft shirt. They were his favorite clothes and felt like old friends. The young boy ran downstairs, eagerly awaiting the moment when his mom would call him to the table. His dad usually made salad and fresh bread. It was almost unbearable to wait.

It was almost too good to be true! His mom was beginning to ladle food onto their plates. He rushed to the table, anxious to begin the feast. His feet swung back and forth under the table. His sisters were slowly making their way into the dining room.

Then his mother walked into the dining room with a container of food. She went to the young boy and handed it to him. Why did it have a cover on it? He was confused.

His mother explained to him that he was to take the container of food to the elderly woman who lived down the road. She lived alone in a big brick house. The young boy's dad often talked about how lonely she was because her family had either died or moved away.

JUST A LITTLE BIT BETTER

A young boy realizes how sweet it is to care for others.

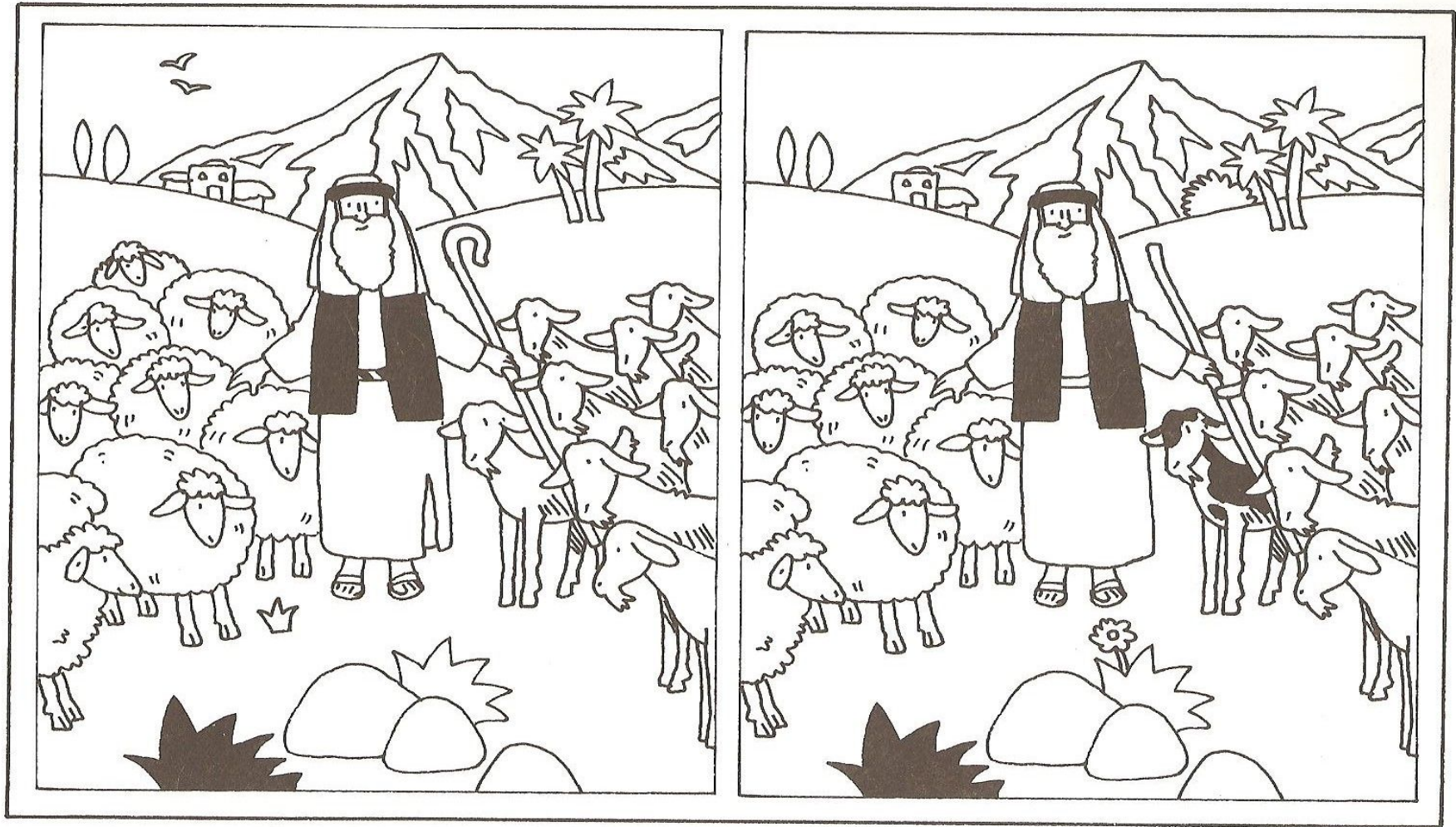
The young boy protested. He wanted to eat! Couldn't she wait? He would be glad to take the container of warm delicious food to the woman after he had filled his own belly. But his mother insisted that he take it to her. She promised that the family would wait to eat until he came home.

The young boy ran as fast as his legs would take him. He ran up the wide front steps and knocked on the large green door. It took the old woman a long time to open the door! The young boy thought about leaving the food on the porch so he could run home to eat. But he waited, knowing that was what his parents would want. When the elderly woman opened the door, the young boy held up the food.

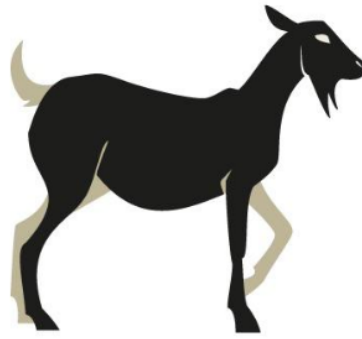
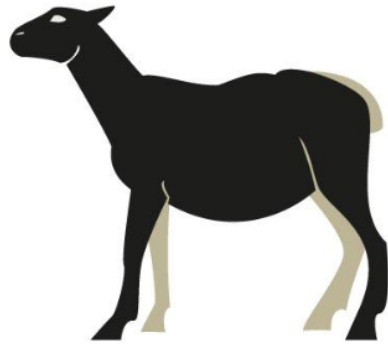
Her pale, wrinkled face broke into a large smile. The young boy saw that she had tears in her eyes. She took the food and wrapped the boy in a warm hug. The young boy couldn't help but smile. He hugged the old woman back and told her to enjoy the lunch.

The young boy skipped back to his house, the smile never fading from his face. He skipped to the dinner table and bowed his head as his little sister prayed a prayer of thanksgiving for the food.

Finally, the young boy picked up his fork and began to eat. And what a feast it was! It was everything that the young boy thought it would be. But it was also something more. He couldn't help but think of the joy that this food brought to the old woman. And thinking about her smile, her hug, and her tears made the young boy realize that it was his experience with the woman that made everything taste just a little bit better.



Circle the Differences in the two pictures.



Sheep

Genus: *Ovis*

54 chromosomes

- Bulkier than goats.
- Long, hanging tails. Generally docked for sanitary reasons.
- Produce wool, domesticated breeds require shearing.
- No beard, some sheep have manes.



Sheep and goat can mate but their offspring are usually stillborn. A hybrid can be created in a lab (called a chimera).

Goats

Genus: *Capra*

60 chromosomes

- More slender than sheep.
- Short tail that generally points up.
- Most goats have hair coats that require no shearing or combing.
- Some breeds have a characteristic beard.



SHEEP

Mouth

- Sheep have a noticeably divided upper lip, while goats do not.



GOAT

Horns

- Some sheep and goat breeds are bred to be hornless.
- Sheep horns are wide and curl on loops around the head, goat horns are more narrow, upright and less curved.



FINNGOAT



ALPINE IBEX



MOUNTAIN GOAT*



MARKHOR



IRISH GOAT



Mountain goat is not actually a goat, but the only member of its genus *Oreamnos*. Shown here for reference purposes.



ALAND SHEEP



MOUFLON



BIG HORN SHEEP



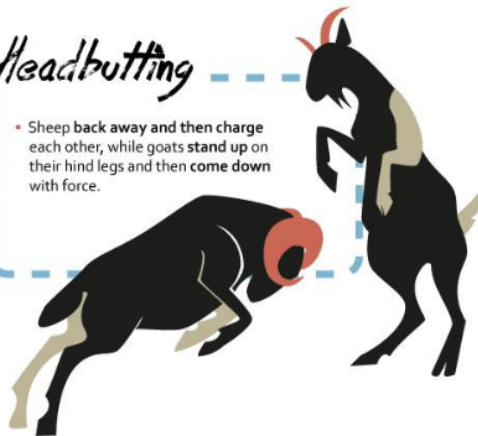
JACOB SHEEP



DALL SHEEP

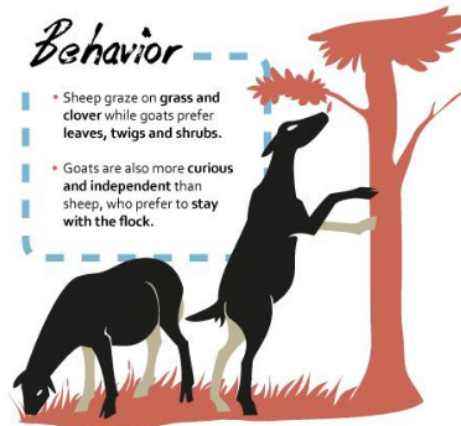
Headbutting

- Sheep back away and then charge each other, while goats stand up on their hind legs and then come down with force.



Behavior

- Sheep graze on grass and clover while goats prefer leaves, twigs and shrubs.
- Goats are also more curious and independent than sheep, who prefer to stay with the flock.



Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- ✦ In what way does this text teach about the Ways of the Kingdom?
- ✦ What does this Scripture have to do with our lives today?
- ✦ What part of this Scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday—Read Matthew 25:31-46

When did we see you?

Pretend to be sheep and goats.

Monday—Read Matthew 24:1-14

Do not be led astray.

How do you think Jesus' followers knew that he was the actual Son of God? Why didn't they follow one of the many other prophets of the time? What made Jesus' word special?

Tuesday—Read Matthew 24:15-29

Hard times to come.

Share one way that you can keep your focus on Jesus during hard times.

Wednesday—Read Isaiah 13:6-11

The day of the Lord is near.

Make your best scared face.

Thursday—Read Matthew 24:30-35

The son of Man.

If possible, find a freshly budding plant.

Friday—Read Matthew 24:36-44

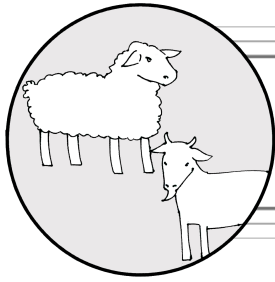
The unexpected hour.

What do you do when you are waiting for something?

Saturday—Read Matthew 24:45-51

Faithful or wicked?

Do you remember the story of the talents and the faithful servants from last week? Retell it. You can double check in Matthew 25:14-30.



THE STORY @ HOME

**KIDS
3RD-6TH**

NL

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 1 (2022-2023)

Lesson #1-27
Matthew 25:31-46

LAST WEEK

Jesus teaches his disciples about being prepared and using their gifts wisely with the parables of the Ten Bridesmaids and Talents (Matthew 25:1-13 [or 25:14-30]).

THIS WEEK

Jesus uses the image of separating sheep and goats to tell his disciples that by serving those in need, they are serving him (Matthew 25:31-46).

STORY SUMMARY

Jesus told a story about a king who separates people based on their actions similar to how a shepherd separates sheep from goats. The king speaks of being in need of many things, such as food, water, and clothing. He explains that the people who helped to provide for any of his needs will be praised. These people are confused. They ask when it was that he had been in need. In response, Jesus says that whenever someone cares for the most vulnerable among us, they are serving Christ himself.

PRACTICE SERVICE

Every community has people who lack food, drink, clothing, compassion, empathy, and company. By finding the appropriate community resources and sharing them, we can make serving the needs of others a priority. Go online as a family to learn about one new resource in your community.

THE POINT

When we serve others, we serve Jesus himself.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

Jewish Religious Leaders

The religious leadership of first-century Judaism was complex, with various roles played by different groups. The priests served in the temple performing rituals and sacrifices. The high priest was appointed by the Roman governor and had special duties in the temple. The chief priests were members of the most respected priestly families. The Sanhedrin was made up of the high priest, chief priests, scribes, and elders and made legal decisions over religious and some civic crimes. Scribes worked in synagogues and the temple. They both copied manuscripts and sometimes acted as lawyers.

NEXT WEEK

Jesus rides a donkey into Jerusalem, and a large crowd gathers, laying cloaks and branches on the road before him (Matthew 21:1-17).

2023 Palm Sunday Script

PC - Shadow Play / Palm Sunday 2023

Characters:

Jerry (puppet)

Jesus (Joe)

Grace

Avery

Elsbeth

Pastor / Wendy

Narrator (Blair)

Pharisee (Blair Nelson)

Narrator: Good morning! It's Palm Sunday, Jerry... aren't you excited?

Jerry: That's the Sunday we paint our palms purple? Or ask some lady to read them and tell our fortune?

Grace: No no! Palm Sunday represents the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem!

Jerry: That's what I said. Um, that's what I meant.

Grace: Okay, now picture this. Jesus' popularity was going VIRAL. I mean, he just raised Lazarus from the dead a few days earlier!

[Cue thriller clip] / Jerry motions as if he's cued it

Grace: Umm... Not exactly.

[Pause for laughter]

Narrator: Now, in order to continue to the work he was called to do Jesus needed a donkey.

Jerry: OH YEAH! Jesus rode in on a DONKEY while the crowds put their cloaks and palm branches all around and shouted

[Shadow skit takes place with donkey and branches waving]

ALL CAST: Hurrah! Huzzah! Welcome to the King of Peace! Welcome to the son of David! Praise to God in Heaven!

Elsbeth: Why a donkey? Why not a horse?

Narrator: Jesus was a King of Peace. He came into Jerusalem riding a symbol of peace rather than a war horse like a conquering King.

Pastor: Who is this man you are cheering for?

Congregation: Hosanna, praises to the Son of David! He is our long-awaited savior! Hosanna! Hosanna!

Avery: Why the fuss?

Congregation: He will free us from the Roman oppression! He is Jesus from the town of Nazareth in Galilee. Hosanna! Hosanna!

Elsbeth: What is happening?

Congregation: He is our King and our Messiah!

[Jesus Joe steps out from behind shadow]

Congregation: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!

Pharisee [from audience]: Teacher, tell these people to stop making these wild claims and acting this way!

Jesus:/Joe Listen—if they were silent, the very rocks would start to shout!

Congregation: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!

Jesus: How I wish you knew today what would bring peace! But you can't see.

ALL CAST: Hurrah! Huzzah! Welcome to the King of Peace! Welcome to the son of David! Praise to God in Heaven!