



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission



MATTHEW 25

“Actively Engaged in the World”



Matthew 25- Sheep or Goat?



MATTHEW 25

<https://act.heifer.org/sheep-or-goat/>



Matthew 25- BRAINSTORM



MATTHEW 25

- **WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A NEIGHBOR?**
- **WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE THE CHURCH?**



Matthew 25:31-46 NRSV



MATTHEW 25

31 “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. **32** All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, **33** and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.



Matthew 25:31-46



MATTHEW 25

34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; **35** for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, **36** I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’



Matthew 25:31-46



MATTHEW 25

37 Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? **38** And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? **39** And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ **40** And the king will answer them, ‘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 25:31-46



MATTHEW 25

41 Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; **42** for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, **43** I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’



Matthew 25:31-46



MATTHEW 25

44 Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ **45** Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ **46** And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.



Matthew 25 - Purpose



MATTHEW 25

- **Connect** and unite the PC(USA)
- **Celebrate** and call forth
- **Clarify** the self-understanding of Christians in the PC(USA)



Matthew 25 – 3 COMPONENTS



MATTHEW 25

- **Building Congregational Vitality**
- **Dismantling Structural Racism**
- **Eradicating Systemic Poverty**



Congregational Vitality



MATTHEW 25

**Intentionally and Continuously
Develop in Faith
&
Actively Engage the Community**



Structural Racism/White Privilege



MATTHEW 25

**Laws, Policies & Practices that
Structure, Reinforce and
Perpetuate Discrimination, Bias,
Prejudice and Oppression of
People of Color**



Systemic Poverty



MATTHEW 25

**The Economic Exploitation of
People who are Poor through
Laws, Policies, Practices & Systems
that Perpetuate an Impoverished
Status**



Matthew 25 - Impact



MATTHEW 25

- Increase in **spiritual energy** of congregations
- Increased **impact** of church of the world
- Increase in **new disciples** and participation in ministry
- **Ignite** PC(USA)'s Witness & Work!



Discussion Questions



MATTHEW 25

- Which of these components do you feel drawn to?
- Which of these components make you anxious?
- How do you think the church is doing in regards to these 3 components now?



The Community



MATTHEW 25

- **What are the needs in your community?**
 - **Immediate?**
 - **Long-term?**

Write down 3 ways you think the church can help in regards to these needs.



Matthew 25



MATTHEW 25

“We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility. It’s easy to say, ‘It’s not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem.’ Then there are those who see the need and respond. I consider those people my heroes.” - Fred Rogers

[The Very Good Gospel](#) Lisa Sharon Harper



Closing Prayer



MATTHEW 25

Jesus says

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

And blessed is the church that trusts in the grace of Christ to build congregational vitality.

Jesus says

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

And blessed is the church that serves with the love of God to eradicate systemic poverty.

Jesus says

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.

And blessed is the church that seeks by the power of the Spirit to dismantle structural racism.

Blessed are you, O holy, triune God,

and blessed is your holy realm forever.

Amen.



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