

## Every Little Bit Helps

“Every little bit helps,” says mom or dad as they encourage the kids to pitch in and help. Although I didn’t understand the power of those words then, I have come to realize them now. I thought of this when considering Jesus’s words found in Matthew 25:31-46. He just finished talking sharing the “Parable of the Talents” (Matthew 25:14-30), something we looked at earlier in the year. The closing of that parable is direct and uncomfortable, “For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away” (Matthew 25:29). Judgment is so hard to stomach!

***When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then will He sit on the throne of His glory.***

***Matthew 25:31***

In this glorious day Jesus, will “gather all the nations” and “separate them one from another” (Matthew 25:32) setting some to His right and others to His left. Then the King (Jesus) will say “to those on His right hand, ***'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.'***” (Matthew 25:34-36) I can’t help but remember the words of Jesus in the parable of the talents where he said, “***Well done, good and faithful servant...***” (Matthew 25:23). Such important words to hear, don’t you think?

Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ***'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?'***

***Matthew 25:37-39***

It is to this point I wish us to come. We have looked at God’s call to serve one another, as well as those outside the body of Christ. Most of the lessons have focused on serving within, but it is so much bigger than that. Serving those around us, is seldom on grand scales where what has been accomplished is so clearly seen. Often, and maybe even most of the time, it is done in simple gestures of kindness. Jesus said it this way, “***Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.***” (Matthew 25:40)

Imagine that every little gesture of kindness to those around us (both in the church and outside), is as though we were loving Jesus Himself. Of those who serve like this that are in Christ, He will one day say those words “Well done, good and faithful servant...” and they will have eternal life.

*Dennis*