

Gospel Reflection

Am I an obedient sheep or a stubborn goat? I guess I'd have to say that it "depends." It depends on the day, it depends on my mood, it depends on the effort I am willing to exert. Sometimes following Jesus and being a "living stone" isn't too hard; it may even feel great! But then, come the tough times... Those are the times that Jesus warned us about... The times when I know that I am being called to respond to a difficult person or a difficult situation. Although it's hard to suppress my "goat" and respond as an obedient "sheep," I know that God has given me much, so much is expected of me. And, what about those times when I know that I am being called to something, but it's difficult to know what I am being called to do?

At Mass this weekend, we are given the opportunity to think about that, to allow the Holy Spirit to move us to make a commitment to our community, our God, ourselves... To do something in the service of God's people. It may be something new for us or it may be a re-commitment to keep doing the good things that we are already doing. But, by acting upon that commitment, the chance of experiencing more "sheep times" and fewer "goat times" can increase. And that experience can bring a lot of goodness into our lives and definitely bring us closer to being counted among God's sheep.

KEEPING FAITH FIRST FAMILY FUN

Matthew 25:31-46

T R N T A M B L B H C B K
 N E E D S N I Y B O H X P
 E Z J V E P B N P R A N S
 M I H H C C B U I L R V T
 E H L N S T T G O S I G N
 V X S I A T H I R S T Y H
 L B A L E T A Q Y H Y E O
 O I V Z E A I O R E R Z R
 V J M O I G S O G E Y G Q
 N C U N Q L N N N P N C M
 I S I T F E L A U S I I I
 K E O H R G B A H D H A F
 S H B G K E Z B M U S F E

Find these words from the Gospel passage.

ANGELS	CHARITY	GOATS
HUNGRY	ILL	INVOLVEMENT
LEFT	MINISTER	NATIONS
NEEDS	RIGHT	RIGHTEOUS
SHEEP	THIRSTY	THRONE

Disciple's Reflection*

& Questions of the Week

*The Solemnity of Jesus Christ the King
11/23/2008*

Matthew 25: 31-46

Faith-

Sharing



Questions of the Week

Our Lady of the Assumption

435 Berkeley Ave.
Claremont, CA
www.olaclaremont.org

Call to Prayer

We begin by calling upon God:

**In the Name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the
Holy Spirit, Amen.**

*We then pause for a moment to listen with
our hearts to this week's Gospel passage...*

The Word of God: *Matthew 25: 31-46*

The Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit down upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate one from another, as a shepherd separates the **sheep** from the **goats**. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

"Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by 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, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.'

"Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you and hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison and visit you?'

"And the king will say in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me.'

"Then he will say to those on his left,

'Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing, ill and in prison and you did not care for me.'

"Then they will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison and not minister to your needs?' He will answer them, 'Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.' And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

The Gospel of the Lord



Gospel Glossary

Sheep: These gentle and obedient animals are used as a metaphor for the followers of Christ.

Goats: The unrighteous are here portrayed as goats, animals known for their stubborn and unpleasant dispositions.

the righteous will answer: The righteous seem surprised that their charity to others is equivalent to charity to the Lord Himself.

Faith Sharing

Questions of the Week

- How does my treasure support the mission of Christ and my community?
- How do my time and talent support the mission of Christ and my community?
- How do I serve "the least" of my community and of the world?

Closing Prayer

Almighty and merciful God,

*You break the power of evil and
make all things new in your Son Jesus
Christ, the King of the universe. May
all in heaven and earth acclaim your
glory and never cease to praise you.*

*We ask this through our Lord
Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.*

Amen.

The Solemnity of Jesus Christ the King