

God's Child

Open with prayer to God for wisdom.

On a Sunday morning, a man in ragged clothes wandered into a church. He was literally dirty, stooped with weariness, and looked hardened by a life on the streets in the ways we may expect. He wandered quietly down the aisle as people stared, and sat on a pew toward the front of the sanctuary. When the worship service began, this vagrant stepped to the pulpit, raised his head, and shock filled the room as they realized he was their Pastor in disguise. He remarked how no one greeted him, welcomed him, offered to help, asked if he was in need in some way. Instead, he said he felt very unwelcome in their church. You may have already heard this story which has been around for years, and it does not matter if it actually happened. It actually happens more often than we may know. Unfortunately, we require Jesus to shock us the same way on a frequent basis. In the following passage, how we treat one person is also how we treat Jesus Christ Himself. Also, this standard does not apply to only people deemed special in some earthly, or spiritual, way - "Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me." How we treat the least is how we treat Jesus Christ.

Read Matthew 25: 34 - 40.

Questions to prayerfully consider or discuss: How likely are we to say, or do, to Christ what we have said, or done, to one another today? Are you too quick to assume this is a great lesson for someone else instead of yourself?

Close with prayer in thanks to God.