



Week 2: ...*On the Margins*

Today's passages: **Matthew 25:31-46**
(pew Bible pg. 1415)

Notes:

For Further Reflection:

Have you ever sensed the presence of Jesus in a unique way? What was that like?

Read Matthew 25:31-46; if you have time, consider reading the whole chapter.

:: What do you find especially encouraging or challenging in these passages?

:: Why is it important to recognize Jesus is *already* among those in need: the hungry, the thirsty, the foreigner/stranger, the indigent, the ill and the imprisoned?

:: In the last verse, we see that "righteous" people are those who go and engage with these needs. How does this enhance or challenge your understanding of terms like what it means to be "holy" or "righteous?"

Pastor Jeremiah reminded us of our need to root our identity in Jesus. How do you think going to the margins of culture and society might help us do that?

Pastor Jeremiah also said, "it's not just enough to **know** where to find Jesus, we have to **go**." What are some of the ways we might be tempted to stay in the "knowing" instead of "going" spaces? What are ways we can encourage ourselves and others to "go"?

How to begin a new life in Christ:

Jesus has already done everything necessary for us to have new life and freedom in him!

We can choose to respond to this by:

- 1) *Acknowledging we (like everyone else!) need new life in Jesus.*
- 2) *Ask God to forgive our sins by the work of Jesus.*
- 3) *Receive new life from God by trusting in Jesus as the one who frees us (as Savior) and leads us (as Lord).*

You can do that now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:

Jesus, I have been lost in deep darkness and need you to rescue me. I have done things I need your forgiveness of; I have lived in separation from you and need you to reconcile us. You died and rose from the dead, so I know you can do this in my life. I receive you as my rescuing savior and put my faith in you as my Lord.

Help me to live for you in the light from this day forward. In your name, amen.

If you chose to follow Jesus today, text "Jesus" to 262-302-3021.

We'll send you some exciting next steps and celebrate with you!

What does it look like for you to move from **KNOWING** to **GOING** this week?



Unless otherwise noted, today's Scripture is from New International Version [NIV]
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