



The Verdict Is In — Week 2: “The Sentence of God”

CONNECT: What Bible character do you relate to the most?

GROW:

1. **Read Matthew 25:31-33.** Why will the Son of Man separate all people like separating sheep from goats?
2. Last week, we asked, “How can a good God send anyone to Hell?” Knowing that we’ve all sinned and disobeyed God, talk about this question today: “How can a just God send ANYONE to Heaven?”
 - a. Which of these questions is more perplexing for you? How does God’s grace help us understand His judgment?
 - b. Have you ever had a conversation with a nonbeliever who was asking you about God’s justice and why He allows some people to go to Hell? What was most challenging about the conversation, and how did you navigate it?
3. **Read Ephesians 2:8-9.** How much involvement do you have with your salvation? Is there anything you can do to affect your own salvation?
4. **Read Matthew 25:34-46.** These verses say that the saved will be rewarded for their good works, and the unsaved will be punished for their sinful works.
 - a. How does this go beyond just being sentenced to either Heaven or Hell? Is this distinction something you’ve ever heard of or considered before?
 - b. How does it make you think differently about the way you live your life now? How does it change the way you think of those who don’t know Jesus?
 - c. According to what you just read, how can we determine if our works are good or sinful?
5. **Read James 2:14-20.** If we are saved by grace through faith, then why does this say we need both faith and works?

PRAY: Thank God for your salvation, and ask Him how you can do good works for Him.

NEXT: Are you looking for a way to serve God and His people? Consider volunteering at this year’s Jesus Prom on April 26! Head to southland.church/jesusprom to learn more and sign up.