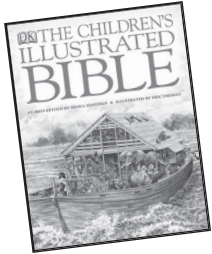


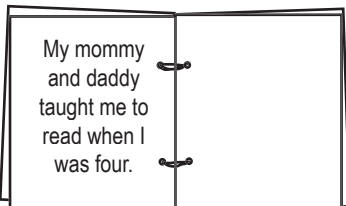
# Ordinary Time, Proper 29



The Children's Illustrated Bible page 177

When Jesus comes, he will separate people as a shepherd separates sheep and goats. The sheep will be on his right and the goats on his left. The shepherd will say, "Come inherit the kingdom; when I was hungry, you gave me food; when I was thirsty, you gave me water. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was poor and you gave me clothing. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me." The righteous will ask, "Lord, when did we do these things?" Jesus will answer, "When you did it for others, you did it for me."

—Matthew 25:31–46 adapted



## ☐ Love Jesus by Loving Others

Invite kids to dramatize the parable of the sheep and the goats from Matthew 25:31-46 on their KidsPage. Show the drawing of the shepherd on page 177 of *The Children's Illustrated Bible*. This parable shows how we are to love Jesus—by loving others. When we care for others, we show Jesus that we care for him.

Tape onto a wall a large drawing of a sheep and a goat. After the drama, ask kids to write on each animal what the differences are between the sheep and the goats, according to the parable. Discuss:

1. Which do you want to be, a sheep or a goat?
2. What can you do to be a sheep? (feed the hungry, give clothes to the poor, care for the sick)
3. What would you do if you were a goat? (not feed the hungry, be selfish with your gifts, not care for others)

## ☐ Sheep Sheep Goat

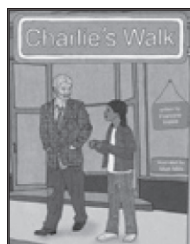
Play a game of "Duck Duck Goose" using the words "Sheep Sheep Goat" instead. Kids sit in a large circle. The "goat" walks around the outside of the circle, tapping each kid on the head saying "sheep." Finally, the goat says "goat" while tapping someone, and they jump up to chase the existing goat back to the empty spot in the circle. Whoever gets there last is the next goat.

## ☐ Charlie's Walk

Share the book *Charlie's Walk* about the young girl on her way to church who makes friends who teach her about giving. (See Resources, page III.) Discuss after:

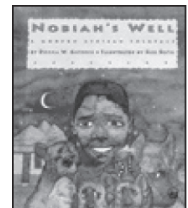
1. Have you ever made friends with someone who is alone? who others make fun of?
2. How do Jesus' words help us understand how to meet and care about people?
3. What did Olivia learn about giving from Charlie?

Have kids write their own stories on the theme of "Someone Who Taught Me How to Give." They can create their own title. Fold two sheets of blank paper in half, and punch holes on the center fold. String yarn through the holes and tie on the outside of the book to create a six-page book for their story. Attach a sheet for the front and back cover. Provide markers or crayons to create the books.



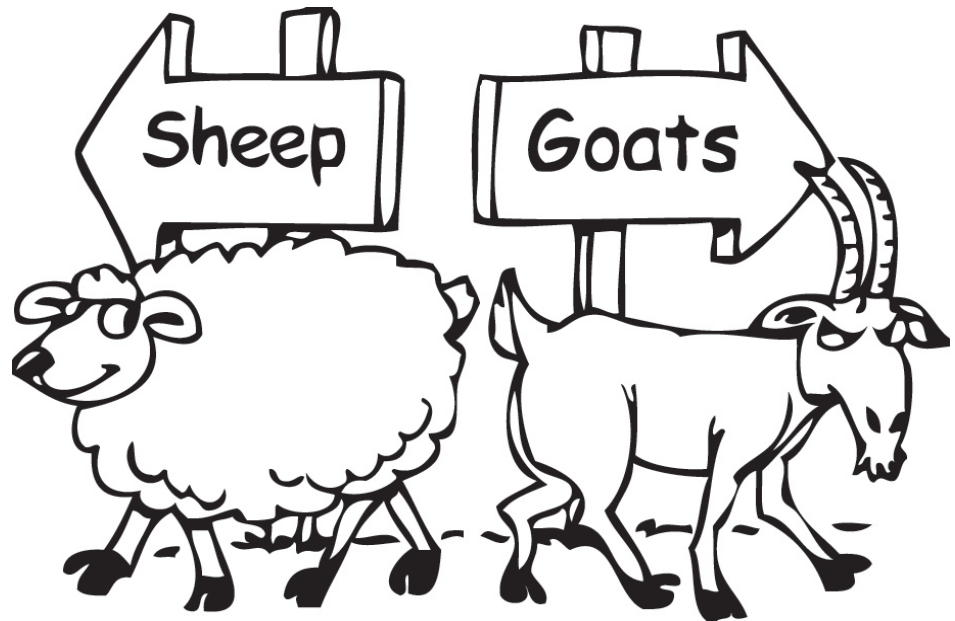
## ☐ Giving

Share another story of giving to all of God's creatures. Share *Nobiah's Well: A Modern African Folktale* by Donna W. Guthrie, illustrated by Rob Roth. (See Resources, page III.) This wonderful story tells how a young boy's love and understanding for his fellow creatures turns into a blessing for his family. After the story, invite children to tell stories of how they have helped animals and how animals have helped them. How is this like Jesus' parable?



Jesus said when the kingdom of heaven comes, he will be like a shepherd who separates the sheep and goats. The sheep are those who gave food to the hungry, clothes to the poor, and cared for the sick. The goats did not care for others.

—from Matthew 25:31–46



## Parable of the Sheep and Goats

- Jesus: When the kingdom of heaven comes, I will separate my followers like a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.
- Goats: Bleah - bleah.
- Sheep: Baa baa baa.
- Shepherd: (separates the sheep and goats) You sheep will sit at my right hand. You will inherit the kingdom of God because when I was hungry you gave me food, when I was a stranger you welcomed me, and when I was sick you took care of me.
- Sheep: When did we do that? Baa baa.
- Shepherd: When you did it to others, you did it to me.  
(points to goats) And you goats will sit at my left hand. You will not inherit the kingdom of heaven because when I was hungry you ignored me, when I was a stranger you shut the door, and when I was sick you walked by me.
- Goats: When did we do that? Bleah - bleah.
- Shepherd: When you did it to anyone, you did it to me.

—Matthew 25:31–46 adapted

Tell how you are like the sheep Jesus describes.

Have you ever been like a goat?  
What did you NOT do?