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Table Talk: Family Devotions

Resources for Ministry

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011. For the Least of These

Anthony Cook

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, cooka@csl.edu

Jason Broge

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, brogej@csl.edu

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TABLE TALK

For the Least of These

Prepare:

As one person lights a candle, the family reads together: (based on Galatians 6:8-10)

- C: Let us not grow weary of doing good;
R: for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.
C: Let us not grow weary of doing good;
R: As we have opportunity, let us do good for all.

Read: Matthew 25:31-46 (ESV)

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. 34 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. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' 37 Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? 38 And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? 39 And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' 40 And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

41 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. 42 For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' 44 Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' 45 Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' 46 And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Reflect:

At times, it seems that our service to others is separate from our love and service to God. Here, Jesus calls us to see our service to the "least of these" as service to Him.

Take a moment to talk about what this passage (Matthew 25:31-46) means for you as a family.

Now share with one another one thing you can do differently as a member of your family.

Pray:

The head of the household prays:

Heavenly Father, thank you for caring for us through others. Give us the strength to show hospitality and care to those we encounter. Help us to love our neighbor, and so to love you. Amen.