

The parable of the sheep and the goats.

Students should work in small groups or pairs for this activity.

Hand each group a small handful of modelling clay and a blank sheet of A3 paper. They should not do anything with this yet.

Read the parable below to the class.

Students should now work to create a series of models to re-tell the key parts of the parable. Do limit the time allowed for this aspect of the task to no more than 5 minutes.

Once finished, they should set their models on the A3 sheet.

Students should then circulate around the room with a pen, they should look at the models created by different groups and attempt to label the different parts of the story, writing their ideas next to the different parts of the models on the A3 sheet*. Again, allow up to 5 minutes for this part of the activity.

Students should then return to their original models and note down on the sheet anything they think they missed, before attempting to write the parable down in their own words.

Provide extra challenge by asking the students to also note down what they think the parable means or is teaching.

The parable of the sheep and the goats.

Matthew 25:31-45

When the son of man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne, with all the nations gathered before him. He will separate people into two groups, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; he will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, "You have my Father's blessing; come take possession of the kingdom that has been ready for you since the world was made. For when I was hungry, you gave me food; when thirsty, you gave me drink; when I was a stranger, you took me into your home; when naked, you clothed me; when I was ill, you came to my help; when in prison, you visited me."

The then righteous will reply, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and fed you, or thirsty and gave you drink, a stranger and took you home, or naked and clothed you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and come to visit you?"

And the king will answer, "Truly I tell you: anything you did for one of my brothers here, however insignificant, you did for me." Then he will say to those on his left, "A curse is on you; go from my sight to the eternal fire that is ready for the devil and his angels. For when I was hungry, you gave me nothing to eat; when thirsty, nothing to drink; when I was a stranger, you did not welcome me; when I was naked, you did not clothe me; when I was ill and in prison, you did not come to my help."

And they in their turn will reply, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and did nothing for you?" And he will answer, "Truly I tell you: anything you failed to do for any one of these, however insignificant, you failed to do for me."