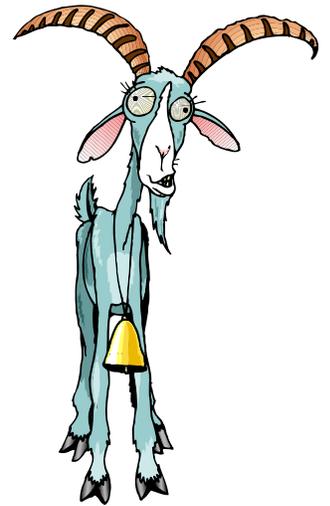




Woolley Sheep & Hairy Goats: Sorting Sheep from Goats

Use Matthew 25: 32-34, 41.

Illustration: This lesson is hands down an outside lesson. Have a round pen setup or a portion of your arena paneled off. Arrange a small area with a cut gate so you can sort the goats. Have at least 2 sheep and 2 goats on



hand. More is better, but we accomplished this with 2 of each and it took the whole lesson time. It was FUN, funny, & a lesson the children remembered and reminded us of for several years.

VERY illustrated message

Have some of the children and a couple of adults to keep everyone safe, step inside the round pen and begin to try to separate the goats to one side and the sheep to another. Let the children have a chance to try this on their own.

As they attempt this, explain that it's not as easy as it looks. Sometimes the two animals get mixed up



and confused and both will go in the sorting gate and you have to run a sheep back out.

Although we can see with our eyes which is a sheep and which is a goat, the animals themselves just are not getting the message that they need to be separated.

After much ado, the adults can step in to assist and finally get the animals at least partially separated.

Now with all the children on the outside of the round pen read the scripture.

READ:

Matthew 25:32-34

32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:

33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

In the last lesson: *Are you a Sheep or a Goat?* we saw that goats and sheep can be mixed together in a flock, but that does not make a goat become a sheep.

The sheep follow the shepherd, but the goats do not, they have to be herded along.

Eventually the goats are separated out. Just like in [Matthew 25](#), someday we will be separated from the goats.

Sheep [born-again people] and goats [not born-again people] will often flock/herd together in this life.

But God knows which is which. One day He will put the sheep on the right and the goats on the left.

Matthew 25:41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

The sheep will be taken to heaven, and the goats to everlasting fire.

Present Salvation Here.