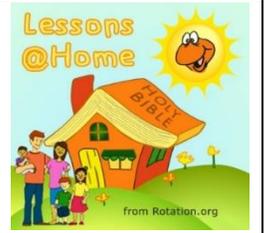


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## Video 1: What Does God Want Us To See & Do in Times Like This?

Matthew 25: I was hungry, I was a stranger, I was sick, I was in prison... just as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me.'

**YouTube Video: "Open the Eyes of My Heart,"** as sung by DeAngelo Gardner. <https://youtu.be/OHDCRS-gsi0>

DeAngelo Gardner is a little-known gospel singer outside of the worship-singer circuit, but his rendition of the popular song, "Open The Eyes of My Heart" is about as good as it gets. More importantly, this contemporary song raises an important issue for us in these days: "Lord, what do we need to have our eyes opened to right now? Where are you in all this mess?" And on that subject, Jesus had some profound words.



### Lyrics and Questions to Ponder:

- What does it mean to have your eyes "opened" to something?
- What have your eyes been "opened" about during 2020 -- in your personal life, in our family, in our society?
- On a scale of 1 to 10, how cool would it be to close your eyes, then open them to find JESUS sitting right here with us?
- What questions would you ask him?
- What questions do you think Jesus wants to ask all of us in these difficult days?

**Read Matthew 25:34-40 to discover some of the people TODAY that Jesus would tell you that he wants you to "open your eyes of your heart" to listen to and care for.**

<sup>34</sup> Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that 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 something to drink,  
I was a stranger and you welcomed me,

36 I was naked and you gave me clothing,  
I was sick and you took care of me,  
I was in prison and you visited me.'

<sup>37</sup> Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup> And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup> And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' <sup>40</sup> And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

#### **Conclusion:**

The lyrics to "Open the Eyes of My Heart" are based on [Isaiah 6](#) where the prophet Isaiah sees six-winged "Seraphs" hovering over the presence of God and shouting "Holy, Holy, Holy." Then Isaiah hears God's voice saying:

<sup>8</sup> "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"

(And Isaiah responds) "Here am I. Send me!"

Question: How are we as a family responding to God's call to serve the "least of these" during this pandemic?

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