



Read Matthew 7:13–29

1. What do you think Jesus means by the “wide” road and the “narrow” road? Why does Jesus describe the narrow road as leading to life? (**Matthew 7:13–14**)
2. Read **Deuteronomy 30:15–20**. How does Jesus’ teaching about two ways connect with Moses’ earlier challenge to Israel to “choose life”? What does this tell us about the significance of the choices we make?
3. What is Jesus warning us about when he describes people who call him “Lord” but do not do the will of the Father? How can someone be religious without actually submitting to Jesus? (**Matthew 7:21–23**)
4. What does Jesus identify as the difference between the wise and foolish builders? Why is actually putting Jesus’ words into practice so important? (**Matthew 7:24–27**)
5. Jesus says that anger and broken relationships matter to God, not just outward acts of violence. What does this teach us about the kind of transformation Jesus wants in our lives? (**Matthew 5:21–26**)
6. Jesus teaches that faithfulness involves more than simply avoiding outward sexual sin. What does this passage teach us about dealing with the desires of our hearts? (**Matthew 5:27–30**)
7. Why does Jesus command his followers to love their enemies and pray for those who persecute them? What makes this way of living difficult? (**Matthew 5:43–48**)
8. What competing “masters” does Jesus identify, and how can we tell when something other than God is beginning to direct our lives? (**Matthew 6:19–24**)
9. Jesus warns his followers about false prophets and tells them to examine their fruit. What does this teach us about discerning whose voices we should trust and follow? (**Matthew 7:15–20**)
10. Read **James 1:22–25**. James says that hearing the word without doing it is self-deception. Why do you think it is possible to know what God says without actually changing how we live? What is one teaching of Jesus you need to put into practice more intentionally?