



August 23rd, 2026
Small Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started

Take some time to catch up and connect as a group. Pray before discussion.
Expect God to move through your time together!

Pacing Your Group

Move quickly through “observation” leaving enough time for “reflection”, “discussion”, and “surrender.”

Scripture Reading

Re-read the scripture passages as needed when you discuss the questions.

Observation: *What do the scripture passages say? Read Matthew 7:13-24*

1. In Matthew 7:13–14, what contrasts does Jesus make between the two gates, the two roads, the people traveling them, and their destinations?
 2. In Matthew 7:15–23, what does Jesus say reveals whether a prophet or professing follower is genuine? What is surprising about the people Jesus describes in verses 21–23?
 3. Compare the two builders in Matthew 7:24–27. What do they have in common, and what single difference determines what happens when the storm comes?
-

Reflection and Discussion: *What are some first thoughts flowing from the scriptures? How do the scriptures connect to everyday life?*

4. Jesus describes the road to life as narrow and difficult. What part of following Jesus is currently most costly or difficult for you to obey?
 5. Jesus says a tree is eventually recognized by its fruit. What evidence of God’s transforming work do you see growing in your life—and where would you most like to see greater fruit?
 6. The people in verses 21–23 had impressive religious activity but did not truly know Christ. What are some ways we can substitute outward Christianity—church attendance, ministry, knowledge, reputation—for an actual relationship with Jesus?
 7. Jesus says the wise person not only hears His words but acts on them. Thinking back over the Sermon on the Mount—loving enemies, forgiveness, purity, integrity, prayer, generosity, money, worry, judging others—which teaching of Jesus do you most need to build into your life this week?
-

Surrender: *Responding to God’s voice.*

8. What is one thing God is saying to you through this study and discussion?

**** Take some time to pray for one another in response to what has been discussed today ****
