

ONE WAY
MATTHEW 7:13-14
11/12/23

I. TWO GATES – NARROW AND WIDE

1. The narrow gate is the Gospel (Good News) of Jesus

John 10:9 - "I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture."

John 14:6 - "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'"

2. We are called to enter the gate, not admire the gate

3. The Narrow gate shows us that the Gospel is exclusive

II. TWO WAYS – HARD AND EASY

1. Our flesh desires the easy road, but Jesus calls us to the hard road

Psalm 73:3-5 - "For I was envious of the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. For they have no pangs until death; their bodies are fat and sleek. They are not in trouble as others are; they are not stricken like the rest of mankind."

*Psalm 73:27-28 - "For behold, those who are far from you shall perish; you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you. **But for me it is good to be near God**; I have made the Lord GOD my refuge, that I may tell of all your works."*

Matthew 16:24-26 - "Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?'"

2. The hard way is a life of dying to yourself

3. Discipleship is not easy or for the faint of heart

III. TWO ETERNITIES – DESTRUCTION AND LIFE

1. The wide way promises happiness but delivers destruction

2. The narrow way promises to give us eternal hope

3. The narrow gate is open to everyone, but not everyone will find it

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What did you think about the message this week? What stood out to you or challenged your thinking?
2. How can you know that you are walking on the narrow path? What are some things that are characteristic of the wide path?
3. How can we help encourage one another as we walk the narrow and hard way? How can we do that in our C-group?
4. What makes the wide gate so appealing to people in our world today? How can Christians help people who are on the wide way?
5. Why does it upset our world that we believe there is only one way to heaven? What does this reveal about our world?
6. What does it say about God that there is only one way to come to Him?
7. How has God called Christians to help others find the narrow gate? How does He equip us to share the Gospel?
8. What are some reasons as to why we don't share the gospel with others?
9. Why have you chosen the narrow path even though it is the harder path? What encouragement have you found on the narrow path?
10. Is the choice between the wide and narrow paths a one-time choice, or will you need to choose between the two paths on multiple occasions?