

The Narrow Gate

Matthew 7:13–14

1. The Two Ways Presented

2. The Two Ways Described

Application

Life Group Questions

The Narrow Gate

Matthew 7:13–14

Opener: When you get lost, which are you more likely to do: stop and ask for directions, or just keep driving until you find your way out? Why?

READ: Matthew 7:13–14

1. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus has presented several contrasts:
What are the two kinds of righteousness? (See Matthew 6:1-4, 16–18)
What are the two kinds of devotion? (See Matthew 6:5–6)
What are the two kinds of treasures? (See Matthew 6:19–21)
What are the two kinds of masters? (See Matthew 6:24)
What are the two kinds of kingdoms? (See Matthew 6:25–33)
2. How would you describe the wide and easy way?
Why does this way lead to destruction?
Why is this the path which is taken by the many?
3. How would you describe the narrow and hard way?
Why does this way lead to life?
Why is this the path which is taken by the few?
4. Why doesn't Jesus offer a "middle road"?
5. How might verse 12 (The Golden Rule) define what Jesus means by the narrow gate?

READ 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."

6. How can Jesus make such an audacious statement? Be specific.
7. How would you explain to an unbeliever that Jesus is the only way to God?

READ John 10:10—(Jesus): The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

8. Jesus says that the narrow gate and the hard path lead to life. Can this life be experienced in the present age? If so, how?
9. How often do you find yourself trying to find a middle ground between the two paths? What can you do to make sure you stay on the narrow and hard path?

TAKEAWAYS: Share your main takeaway from our discussion.

Memory Verse: Matthew 7:13–14 (ESV)

Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.