

## Astonished prt 19

### Matthew 7:21-23

MPS: **True disciples do the Father's will by abandoning their own will**

## WELCOME

ITS FATHERS DAY (and happy bday to David G)

**We have donuts** with dad's in the lobby.

- Dad's feel free to grab a donut for yourself or with your kids. God is such a good Father to us, and has blessed our church with many good fathers, whether you are raising kids of your own or being a spiritual father to those around you. Thank you and enjoy."

Seek night(s)

- Join us for our upcoming **Seek Nights** on June 28 and July 19 at 5:00 PM. These gatherings will be similar to the prayer and worship nights we've held in the past, providing space for our church family to seek the Lord together!
- Our Seek Nights will include musical worship, guided prayer initiatives, and an opportunity for our elders to pray with and for those who desire prayer, including prayer for healing. Whether you come carrying a burden, celebrating God's faithfulness, or simply longing to spend time in His presence, we invite you to come and seek the Lord together!

Welcome Table RSVP

- If you are new—or if you know someone who is—we would love the opportunity to connect on a deeper level. Please join us for *The Welcome Table* on **Sunday, June 28**, immediately following the 10:00 AM worship service. This special gathering is a chance to share a meal, connect with others, and learn more about Greenbriar.
- The Welcome Table lunch will take place in the youth room (all the way down the back hall to the left).

INTRO

- The kingdom community must guard against false prophets (Last week - vv. 15–20) and also warn against false disciples (This week 21-23)
- What is Jesus saying here in this Text?
- False disciples know about God while true disciples know God

OPEN

- There is a giant statement made in this passage, Jesus speaks about doing the Father's will – In other words, you don't enter the kingdom of God without doing will of God.
- What is the will of God? I thought we were saved by grace and not our own works – wouldn't obeying God's will to enter the Kingdom be works based?

- Jesus is pointing to something far deeper—and more freeing.
- At the core of Jesus' statement is simply this:

**True disciples do the Father's will by abandoning their own will.**

### **1. False disciples will not enter the Kingdom of God**

**21** *"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.*

- They're Sound in Doctrine:** They possessed sound doctrine that Jesus is LORD.
  - LORD - for the Greek-speaking Jews, LORD (*kyrios*) meant God. They come to Jesus and call him God, which means they're doctrine (sound doctrine). They know he's God.
  - Knowing ABOUT God is not the same as KNOWING God.
  - It's one of those rare instances knowing the right password won't let you in.
  - (code to a gate doesn't give you entrance into their house)
- They're Sentimental:** They possessed passion and emotion about the Lord – two names
  - The doubling of a name is an address of intimacy (Gen. 22:11; 1 Sam. 3:10; 2 Sam. 18:33; Luke 22:31.) Abraham, Abraham; Samuel, Samuel; Absalom, Absalom; Simon, Simon; Martha, Martha.
  - They're emotionally involved. They're excited about Jesus. They weep in the worship services. They possess a sentiment for God.
- They're Servants:** (in verse 22 '*Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?*') They worked for God. They **served**..
  - They healed people. They did miracles. They led people to Christ. They turned people's lives around, they served the church, their city, their neighbor.
  - Is there anything wrong with sound doctrine, sentiment, or serving? No! As a matter of fact, every true disciple will also have those three traits.
  - The absence of these three traits demonstrates you're not a Christian, but the presence of these three traits does not demonstrate you are.

The Father's will: *but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.*

- What is the Father's will here?
- It is surrendering your own will to follow God's will
- It's NOT trying harder to be more moral, have more self-control, or do more for God

- Jesus is pointing to something far deeper—and more freeing.
- Not surrendering to God is really saying, “I don’t want God.” I am good with having his stuff but I don’t want him.
- “If I surrender my will, I surrender my control, If I surrender my control, I surrender my happiness” – how is that working for you?
- “I want to be a child of God, but I’m afraid of being completely surrendered in my will. I don’t want to have to give that up, and I don’t know whether it’ll pay off and really be worth it.”
- You have to abandon your self-will or abandon your eternal hope. You cannot hold on to both at once. That’s the message of the Christian gospel.
- It is possible to want escape and rescue from hell, judgement and wrath and not want God.
- For some, its like voting for a politician – the lesser of the two evils. “I don’t like either candidate, but I’m voting for this one because they are not as bad as this one.” I don’t want eternal damnation, so I’m voting for God. Not to really want God, because if you really have God in your life, you have to give up your own will, and that shows us the difference between someone who is trying to use God and trying to serve God.
- False disciples find God useful. True disciples find God beautiful.
- **Illustration** Imagine a marriage where one spouse says, “I love you,” and does nice things occasionally—but he refuses to give up control over their schedule, money, or decisions. He wants the benefits of marriage without the surrender. That relationship is shallow at best, fraudulent at worst. True love says, “I’m yours. Your priorities become mine.” That’s what Jesus calls us to with the Father.
- Again, here’s the first mark of a true disciple: *The true disciple surrenders his will.*

**True disciples do the Father’s will by abandoning their own will.**

**1 Corinthians 6:19–20 (ESV) 19** *Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.*

**Luke 9:23** – “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.”

**Galatians 2:20** – “I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.”

Dying to self is the key – (Paul, “I die daily.”)

**Romans 6:4 (ESV) 4** *We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.*

- dying to self so Christ can live through you.

– Jesus being pressed in the Garden (Gethsemane literally means garden press). Remaining what he was, he became what he was not. Facing the torment of God’s wrath poured on Him – He prayed “NOT MY WILL BUT YOURS.”

- The doctrines you believed aren’t anymore just doctrines. They’re love letters.  
You *know* him instead of just about him. **Psalm 111:2 (ESV) 2** *Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.*
- The sentiment for Him is found as much in bad times as it is in good times (if not more)
- Your serving is filled with delight not merely duty.

### **True disciples do the Father’s will by abandoning their own will**

**22** *On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’*

### **2. Our serving doesn’t equal salvation**

- Kids dressing up as firemen are not firemen... (Example)
- An oral confession of Jesus as Lord does not always indicate a surrendered heart
- It’s why we ask for testimonies in partnership experience – we are looking for a surrendered will because the true church is filled with true disciples.
- “on that day” points to the resurrection - and the resurrection is central in helping you surrender to Jesus. If Jesus was raised after surrender, then I too will be raised after surrender – we are one.
- witnessing to guy in Jax Bch.
- Our serving may not equal salvation, but obedient, true disciples serve because of their salvation.
- I GET to serve not I have to serve. I GET to go to work with my dad

### **3. We want His declaration of GRACE to us, not a departure from Him.**

**23** *And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'*

- Declare – authoritative, no-negotiation, public, definite news:
- When Jesus says He will 'declare' to them, He is making a solemn, public, courtroom-style pronouncement of the truth.
- They professed Him as Lord. He will profess/declare the reality about them – false disciples.
- He doesn't just say here, "I didn't know about you." Jesus isn't surprised. He's not saying, "Who are you? You're not on the list."
- The word *know* means, "I have never had a relationship with you." (radical oneness)
- What's lawlessness? **1 John 3:4 (ESV) 4** *Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.*
- Those who thought they were workers of righteousness were workers of lawlessness
- They needed their sins forgiven and eternal life in the not yet kingdom, but Jesus declared they wouldn't be because they didn't take the first step of surrendering their will for the Father's.

Signs you may be a false disciple:

Prayerlessness

You want to be saved from God but not saved FOR God (relationship)

Serving is always a chore never a delight

A disdain for others who don't serve as deeply as you

There is no desire to surrender everything to God

You find God useful but not beautiful

We can drift from time to time, but ultimately true disciples find their way back  
(If you are concerned if you are saved, there's a good possibility you are saved)

## **CONCLUSION**

Jesus following the Father's will in the garden – by drinking the cup of wrath so we could have the cup of grace.

## QUESTIONS FOR GROUPS:

1. Jesus says only those who do the Father's will enter the kingdom — and the sermon showed us that doing the Father's will means abandoning our own will. On a scale of 1–10, how fully surrendered would you say your will is to God right now? Where is one area (time, money, future plans, relationships, habits, etc.) where you still tend to hold onto control instead of saying, 'Not my will, but Yours'?"
2. "False disciples find God useful. True disciples find God beautiful. Which of those two descriptions feels more true of your relationship with God right now? What would it look like this week for you to take one practical step toward greater surrender — dying to your own will so Christ can live through you?"