

Session 3: The Narrow Gate

Overview: This Sunday we continued our collection of talks titled “The Real Jesus”. We live in a world where culture, social media and self created versions of Jesus are often what people follow, when we are to follow the Jesus of the Bible and who He is through reading scripture and His own words, not a version we've created, because the real Jesus is worth following. This week challenges us to recognize that Jesus is the narrow gate, and that following Him means choosing truth and obedience over popularity and acceptance. He warns us in scripture against hypocritical judgment, teaches us to ask, seek and knock with confidence in the Father's goodness and calls us to examine the fruit in our life rather than just relying on appearances, gifts, miracles or simply calling Him “Lord”. Genuine discipleship is revealed when we abide in Christ, receive correction and produce the fruit of the spirit in our lives.

This Week: THE JESUS WHO SAYS HARD THINGS

Read through this week's scriptures from the churchwide Bible reading plan as a group and discuss.

Key Scripture:

- John 6:22-71 - Jesus Lets People Walk Away
- Luke 9:18-27 - Jesus Says “Deny Yourself”
- Luke 9:57-62 - Jesus Demands First Place
- Matthew 10:26–39 - “ I Have Not Come To Bring Peace”
- Luke 14:25–35 - “Hate” Your Mother And Father?
- Matthew 5:27-48 - Jesus Talks About Lust, Divorce, And Enemies
- Matthew 7:13-27 - Jesus Says The Road Is Narrow

Discussion Questions:

- 1) What do the scriptures read show us about what Jesus is actually like?
- 2) Is there anything about Jesus in these passages that surprises, challenges, or bothers you?
- 3) Is there a version of Jesus I have created that these passages confront?
- 4) If this is really who Jesus is, what does following Him require of us?