

Sermon-Based Discussion Guide

Date 7/2/23 Bryce Taylor

Watch the sermon at manheimbic.org/sermon.



BIBLE PASSAGE - Matthew 7:12-29

12 "So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

13 "Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy[a] that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. **14** For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

15 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. **16** You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? **17** So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. **18** A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. **19** Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. **20** Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

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

24 "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. **25** And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. **26** And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. **27** And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it."

Other Passages: Luke 5:27-30, Romans, 2:13, James 1:22-25,

Connect:

Get to know each other. Connect, warm up to each other, and take time to fellowship.

Care:

Carry each other's burdens. Share life's challenges and practice Soul Care. Pray together.

Challenge:

Dive into God's Word. Use these discussion questions. Learn from each other's insight.

1. Wrapping up the Sermon on the Mount, what has been a personal "ah ha!" moment for you from this series?
2. As you consider your group, are you bearing witness to God and his narrow road? What might need to change to call each other up into more Kingdom living?
3. How are you promoting and encouraging those around you to be a tree that can bear fruit?
4. In Luke 5:27-30, Jesus calls Matthew/Levi. Jesus was fellowshiping with Matthew, while he was still in his mess, and calling him out. As a group, is there someone you can invite who is a bit more messy but needs support and love and to be called out to follow?
5. As Bryce said, trusting God in obedience is foundational work that involves sacrifice, consider your level of obedience to be hearers and *doers* of the Kingdom.

Clarify:

Does anyone need clarity on something? Are there any big God questions you are wrestling with?

Celebrate:

Celebrate life's successes and God's provision. Worship God's presence. Time to brag about God.

KEY TAKEAWAYS