

## WHICH PATH WILL YOU TAKE? Matthew 7:13-14

In **Matthew 7** Jesus tells of choices that men and women are still making today as to which path to take:

- 2 gates.
- 2 ways.
- 2 destinations.
- 2 groups of people.
- 2 kinds of trees.
- 2 kinds of fruit.
- 2 groups at the judgment.
- 2 kinds of builders.
- 2 kinds of foundations.

What do each of these have in common?

- They are alike in name – 2 gates – 2 trees – 2 builders.
- What makes them different – one will lead to life and the other will lead to destruction.

Read **Matthew 7:13-14**.

- That word destruction means “*a loss that produces utter ruin, perishing, and here refers to the loss of eternal life.*”

But here in Matthew is not the first-time men and women have been faced with the “narrow gate” or the “broad way” decisions.

- **Deuteronomy 11:26-28.**
  - The pathways are called “a blessing” and “a curse”.
- **Joshua 24:14-15.**
  - “The gods your fathers served beyond the river” or the “Lord who has brought you out of bondage.”

In **Matthew 7** Jesus says that many will enter the wide gate that leads to destruction, but few will find the narrow gate.

Jesus consistently tells us that if we follow Him the path will not be easy, it will be the road less taken, but it will be worth it in the end.

- **Matthew 10:38-39.**

- **Matthew 16:24-26.**

Now why is it that so many will take the broad way instead of the narrow way?

- Jesus lays out before us that if we truly desire to be His followers it will require 3 things from us.
  - Faith.
    - Faith that leads to salvation.
      - **Acts 4:12.**
    - Live by faith.
      - **Habakkuk 2:4**
      - Quoted at least 3 times in the New Testament.
  - Discipline.
    - **I Corinthians 9:26-27.**
  - Endurance.
    - **James 1:12.**