



## **Sunday Teaching Discussion Guide: SERMON ON THE MOUNT 08.26.2018**

### Recap:

- The broad gate is what most people are going through. Many people get swept up into what appears to be normal: greed, violence, hatred, racism, mistrust, and judgment.
- The narrow gate is the hard way to live, but it is a better way to live: love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.
- Judging others is tempting, especially when we see others making mistakes, but we don't need to judge each other for our imperfections.
- We need to help each other move in the right direction. We need to remind ourselves and each other that while we may be imperfect, God is continuing to work in our lives.
- We are called to help bring others along and help them through the narrow gate and not find ways to block their entrance to the Kingdom of Heaven or impede progress they are making.

### Discuss:

- Read Matthew 7:13-14
- Was there someone in your life who helped you find the narrow gate? Are there people that you are trying to help find the narrow gate?
- Read Matthew 7:15-20
- When Jesus says that we should "watch out for false prophets", what do you think he would say we should do when we recognize them? What action (if any) do you think Jesus would recommend we take?
- Read Matthew 7:21-23
- Why do you think Jesus says, "Away from me, you evildoers"? Does it seem like he is shunning them and that we should shun others as well?
- What do you think are some of the things that are "the will of my Father who is in Heaven"?
- These verses make it seem like Jesus is telling us to be careful about our actions because we are often judged by the outcomes. Do you consider yourself a person who is concerned more with what the act is or what the outcome is? In the Kingdom of God, what do think people should be concerned most with?

Pray: Invite members of your group to share prayer requests. Give a short prayer thanking God for your group discussion and asking God to be with the requests that have been shared.

### Read at Home: Additional Readings about Recognizing the Spirit of God

- 1 Samuel 3:1-10
- Psalm 25
- 1 John 4