

Now Wonder They Crucified Him

Travel Lighter – Matthew 7:13,14

Discussion Points

March 24, 2018

Read & Reflect

1. Read Matthew 7:13,14 out loud. Then read the rest of the chapter (7:15-29).
 - How do you picture what Jesus is talking about in verse 13 & 14 – what do you imagine? What is the small gate; what is the narrow road? Also recall some of the “I am...” statements from Jesus in the Gospel of John (e.g. John 10:1-10, 14:1-11)
 - Matthew 7:28,29 suggest a challenge, as Jesus wraps up this Sermon on the Mount. What kind of commitment is Jesus calling for?

Explore

2. What does the contrast of “admiring Jesus” and “following Jesus” mean for you in your life (e.g. can you identify times of one or the other? How does/did it change? Is it a season of life or periodic times throughout life?).
3. What rules your life (“if only I have more of this in my life”), or what “has” you?

<input type="checkbox"/> Money & Stuff (need for more)	<input type="checkbox"/> Knowledge (know to control)
<input type="checkbox"/> Approval (need to please)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power (“get out from under...”)
<input type="checkbox"/> Order and control (need to be organized)	<input type="checkbox"/> Career & Success (need to be somebody)
4. Is there a way for you to replace Christ with whatever you identified in question 3? How might you address any one of the following things in your life as a way to travel lighter and let Christ be the ruler of your life?
 - Anxiety: “I’m not perfect, or loved, or competent enough.”
 - Fear: “Everything is going to fall apart if I don’t protect myself.”
 - Anger: “I’m not treated as I ought to be.”

Pray:

- Pray Hebrews 12:1-2;
 - pray about the things you need to throw off;
 - pray for each other (if in a group) to “fix their eyes on Jesus”
 - pray for joy in running the race of faith, that is, walking the narrow road.

