



Sermons of the Savior

Matthew 7:7-29

Lesson 15

We have arrived at the last verses of the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus uses His last words of this sermon to continue His teaching about *judging*. He reminds us of our resource of prayer. He reminds us of how we are to treat others. He teaches us how to detect a *false prophet* and He reminds us that He will be the final *Judge*. He wraps up His sermon exhorting those who would follow Him to take what they have *heard* and *do* it. May we be among those who left this teaching, not only *astonished*, but people who long to *do His sayings*.

OBSERVATION: Read Matthew 7:7-29

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet (the last page of this homework) and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what topics are addressed in these verses?

2. Key words help us to better understand the verses. We have listed below key words. Mark each one in a distinctive way (either with a symbol, highlighting, or some form of boxing, circling, or underlining). Mark each of the key words each time they are used in the text.

Key Words: **verses 7-12** - *Father, ask(s)/seek(s)/knock(s), receives/give(s)(n)/find(s)/opened*

verses 13-14 - *gate/way*

verses 15-20 - *false prophets* (and any references to them), *fruit/fruits*

verses 21-23 - *Father, Jesus* (and any references to Them), the phrase *kingdom of heaven*

verses 24-29 - Any references to Jesus, *hears, does, does not*

3. The contrasting word *but* is used four times in Matthew 7:7-29. Mark the word as a key word. Choose one and record what is being contrasted.

4. The term of conclusion, *therefore*, is used three times in these verses. Mark the word as a key word. Choose one and record what the conclusion was based upon.

CONSIDER THESE THINGS:

1. What is something you have prayed for and are thankful that God did not give to you?
2. If you were setting the standards for who gets into heaven, what requirements would you establish?
3. What kind of internal check do you get that causes you to question someone's sincerity?
4. Describe what it is like to build a sandcastle and watch a wave take it out.

ASK, SEEK, AND KNOCK: Read Matthew 7:7-12

1. Jesus calls us to *ask*, *seek*, and *knock*. What three words does He use to describe the result of those actions?
2. What example does Jesus give in verses 9-10?
 - a. What conclusion is Jesus seeking from us in verse 11?
 - 1.) What word is used in this verse to describe the kinds of gifts God *gives*?
 - b. How do you react when a child you love comes to you with a legitimate need?
3. What motivates you to want to provide for someone you love?
4. What can we learn about prayer from the following verses?

Psalm 10:17

Psalm 145:19

Jeremiah 33:3

Matthew 21:22

John 14:13

5. Record the words of Matthew 7:12.

- a. This command is known as the “Golden Rule”. Why do you think this rule covers all of the commands regarding our relationship with others?

ENTER BY THE NARROW GATE: Read Matthew 7:13-14

1. Using Matthew 7:13,14 describe:

the narrow gate

the broad way

- a. What is your response when you consider the awesome fact that you (if you are a believer) are among the *few*?

- b. The word translated as *difficult* also means *narrow*. In what way(s) is the *way* to heaven *narrow*?

2. How does Jesus describe Himself in:

John 10:9

John 14:6

3. What question was asked of Jesus in Luke 13:23?

- a. What was Jesus’ answer? Luke 13:24

4. After answering questions 1-3, what do you think Jesus wants people to understand?

BEWARE OF FALSE PROPHETS: Read Matthew 7:15-20

1. How did Jesus describe *false prophets*?
2. How did Jesus say we could recognize *false prophets*?
 - a. Define the word *fruit* as it is used in these verses.
 - b. What does *fruit* reveal about a tree?
3. What do these verses teach us about:
 - a good tree
 - a bad tree
4. What is the consequence of *not bearing good fruit*?
5. Record the words of Matthew 7:20.
 - a. In what ways can a person be religious, yet not be a true believer?
 - b. What *fruit* do you look for in a person that helps you to identify if they are truly a believer?

“LORD, LORD”: Read Matthew 7:21-23

1. Many will say to Jesus, “*Lord, Lord*”. What did Jesus say about this in Matthew 7:21?
2. What religious deeds will some people do that will not prove that they are believers? verse 22
3. What does Matthew 7:23 indicate that these people practiced in addition to the good deeds of verse 22?
 - a. Define or list some synonyms for the word *lawlessness*.

4. What will Jesus one day say to those *who practice lawlessness*?
5. Who does Jesus declare *shall enter the kingdom of heaven*?
 - a. What glorious words will these servants get to hear Jesus say to them? (Matthew 25:21)
 - b. Meditate on the contrast of the words unbelievers will hear and the words believers will hear. What are your thoughts?

WISE AND FOOLISH BUILDERS: Read Matthew 7:24-29

1. The Sermon on the Mount closes with another contrast. What examples did Jesus use?
2. Using Matthew 7:24, describe the *wise man*.
 - a. What happened to his *house* when *the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on his house*?
3. Using Matthew 7:26, describe the *foolish man*.
 - a. What happened to his *house* when *the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on his house*?
4. Refer back to verse 24. Jesus said many things as He taught this Sermon on the Mount. Glance through the sermon (Matthew 5-7) and record five sayings which impacted or challenged you.
 - a. How does *hearing* and *doing* Jesus' *sayings* from the Sermon on the Mount cause a person to be able to *stand* when facing the "storms of this life"?
5. Thoughtfully record the words of Matthew 7:28,29.

- a. What are some synonyms for the word *astonished*?
- b. What do you think was *astonishing* about this sermon?
- c. Jesus *taught them as one having authority*. In what ways was Jesus' teaching different from that of the scribes?

REVIEW: Read Matthew 7:7-29

1. What does Matthew 7:7-12 teach us about God's desire to answer our prayers?
2. Jesus Himself stated that the *gate to life is narrow*. How might you respond to the accusation that Christians are narrow-minded about how to get to heaven?
3. What *fruitful* evidence in your life helps to confirm to you your salvation?
4. What have you personally discovered about the importance of *doing* what Jesus has taught in the Sermon on the Mount?

*He will bless those who fear the LORD, both small and great.
May the LORD give you increase more and more, you and your children.
May you be blessed by the LORD, who made heaven and earth.
- Psalm 115:13-15*

Observation Worksheet

Matthew 7:7-29

⁷"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

⁸For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. ⁹Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone?

¹⁰Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? ¹¹If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him! ¹²Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

¹³ "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. ¹⁴Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

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

²¹"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. ²²Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' ²³And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

²⁴"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: ²⁵and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. ²⁶But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: ²⁷and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall." ²⁸And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching, ²⁹for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.