

# A Disciple's Call to...

“Enter through the Narrow Gate!”

“Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. <sup>14</sup> For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.” (Matthew 7:13-14)

“Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.” (John 14:6) “Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, <sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?” (John 11:25-26)

1) Comparing...

The Wide Gate    The Narrow Gate

- It is wide and broad
  - It is narrow and small
- Many enter through it
  - Few find it
- It leads to destruction
  - It leads to life

## 11) Why enter through “the Narrow Gate”?

Because the narrow gate is...

### A) The way to strive to love Christ and keep His Word!

- “And someone said to Him, “Lord, are there just a few who are being saved?” And He said to them, <sup>24</sup> “Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able.” (Luke 13:23-24)
- “Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him. He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father’s who sent Me.”(John 14:23-24)

Because the narrow gate is...

**B) The way of life and salvation! not hardening our hearts towards destruction (hell).**

- “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. <sup>22</sup> Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’ <sup>23</sup> And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.’” (Matthew 7:21-23)
- “TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS.” (Hebrews 4:7) “Therefore let us be diligent to enter that rest, so that no one will fall, through following the same example of disobedience.” (Hebrews 4:11)

Because the narrow gate is...

**C) The way to follow and serve Christ! – 1) denying myself, 2) carrying my cross daily, and 3) losing my life!**

- “And He was saying to them all, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me. <sup>24</sup> For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake, he is the one who will save it. <sup>25</sup> For what is a man profited if he gains the whole world, and loses or forfeits himself?” (Luke 9:23-25)
- “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup> He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it to life eternal. <sup>26</sup> If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.” (John 12:24-26)
- (Ex) “And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come; take your ease, eat, drink and be merry.” <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, “You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?”” (Luke 12:19-20)

Because the narrow gate is...

**D) The highway of holiness! not of the unclean or of fools.**

- “A highway will be there, a roadway, and it will be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean will not travel on it, But it will be for him who walks that way, and fools will not wander on it.” (Isaiah 35:8)
- “Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, <sup>10</sup> nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>11</sup> Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.” (1 Corinthians 6:9-11)
- “For many are called, but few are chosen.” (Matthew 22:14)

Because the narrow gate is...

**F) The way to love the Father!** – not loving the world –  
1) lust of the flesh, 2) lust of the eyes, and 3) pride of life

- “Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. <sup>16</sup> For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.” (1 John 2:15-16)
- “This command I entrust to you, Timothy, my son, in accordance with the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you fight the good fight, <sup>19</sup> keeping faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith.” (1 Timothy 1:18-19)
- The enemy will promote the wide gate! (Ex) Demas, “he loved this world...” (1 Timothy 4:10)