

“Choices On the Broadway!”

May 10, 2020 – Matthew 7:12-14

The wide road that is traveled most often reflects the choices of the masses.

The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way.

The most insignificant things we do may be the most significant things we do.

The way to eternal life is very specific and *very few will choose it.*

The Broad Way is the way of the distracted, the undisciplined, the worldly, the ungodly, the materialistic, the disinterested... The broad way feels right because there are so many others on the road.

The Narrow and Hard Way requires commitment, determination, discipline, control, and self-denial. There is little notice of its path.

The narrow way is the way of the thoughtful, the disciplined, the responsible, and the spiritual.

The narrow way requires commitment

“Choose this day whom you will serve...

As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord!” – (Joshua 24:15)

When you find the “straight and narrow road” to God’s Kingdom you’ll discover that it is a Gateway of Love!

There is no tragedy we will face,
no hardship we will endure,
no adversity we will encounter
where God is not with us!

Nearly every day, God places someone in our life who is consumed with deep pain... Too often, we are so preoccupied that we trivialize another’s pain. We are aware, but not touched.

The Golden Rule:

Always do for other people everything you want them to do for you! (GW)

This is the essence of all that is taught in the Law and the Prophets. It’s the same message: Love others as you would have them love you!

To follow the Golden Rule, we’re not to think about what I can get from this relationship or this action.

Oddly, the happiest people in the world are those who invest their time with the needs of others. The unhappiest people are those who wonder how the world is going to make them happy.

Reasons Why Some Will Never Enter:

1) Too narrow. It requires too much effort, too much discipline and self-denial.

2) No real thought. They carelessly walk right by without ever seeing it.

3) Search half-heartedly while looking back to the other options.

4) Upon finding it, they don’t like what they see.

“I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before Me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by Me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture.” – (John 10:7-9)

What changes or what decisions do you need to make; what action do you need to follow in order to enter through the narrow gate onto the difficult path? How will you reorient your life today?

The gatekeeper opens the gate... and the sheep hear His voice... and the sheep follow Him because they know His voice. – (John 10:3-4)

Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, teach us to learn from You; to listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd as it becomes familiar to us, and to follow Him along the path least taken. Show us the path that leads to life; a path through surrender and self-denial. Convince us that this path is the way to life everlasting! To joy unspeakable! To grace undeniable! The way to peace that overcomes all threats and troubles! We need Your help as the risks, threats and fear challenge us during this time of uncertainty. We look for rest within Your presence and among Your people, in Your Church. In Jesus’ name. Amen