

PENINSULA CHRISTIAN F E L L O W S H I P

Beginning with The End in mind **Matthew 7:13-20**

“Enter” intending to go where it leads

*Only **one gate** opens to eternal life...*

- *And the way it leads to is **clearly defined***

*Jesus **IS** that gate...*

- *And **He** defines the way*

.....
***John 10:1-15**, “They did not understand the things which He spoke to them. Then Jesus said to them again, “Most assuredly, I say to you, **I am the door**”*

***John 14:6**, “Jesus answered, “**I am the way and the truth and the life**. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*

.....
*“Narrow is the gate and **difficult** is the way which leads to life”*

- *Difficult, hard, confined = “**Clearly Defined**”*
- *Like the marriage relationship... (Dating is not part of it)*
- *Like a “walled hallway”, or clearly defined traffic lines & lanes... (**Even turn lanes & lights**)*

OK... we’re standing before the gate (Jesus).

- *We believe Him and cross the threshold to **enter eternal life with Him***
- *Does the gate hinge on **the right** or **the left**?*
- *Does it open **to the left** or **to the right**?*
- *Which way **will I be facing** when I enter?*
- *Do they **both** lead to **the same destination**?*
- *Do our social, political, economic or philosophical views **define the path**?*
- *For **us**, or **anyone else**?*

.....
This has always been a problem

- ***Matthew 7:1-5***
- ***Romans 14:4-13***
- ***James 3:2-18***

.....
*Jesus **IS** the gate, and **He** defines the path*

- ***What is the path, and how did we get to this place** on it?*
- *He’s been defining it since **5:3***

.....
*How many people **name Jesus**, then define the path...*

- **By their own** social, political, economic or philosophical **views**?
- And do so **without** a thought for **Matthew 5:3-10**

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 How has He **defined the path** so far?

- **5:3-12**, How we live in response to God & with other people
- **5:13-16**, In our clearly revealed calling
- **5:17-20**, By Christ's example, not religious standards
- **5:21-48**, By relational applications of **5:5-9**
- **6:1-18**, For God's approval **only**
- **6:19-24**, Living for eternal, **not earthly** values
- **6:25-34**, By entrusting our entire life to Him... **daily**
- **7:1-12**, By asking & seeking **for others**, what **we want from God** (Like **He did for us**)

.....
 Then He tells us, this is **not optional**, and...

- Be careful **who you follow**
-

"Beware of false prophets... You will know them **by their fruits.**"

- What they **display & offer** you
- They are inviting you to enter, and go **another way**
- Not only blatant sin, but often **attractive self-indulgences...**
- Living like Rock Stars, declaring **wealth** as God's reward
- **I Timothy 6:3-9**

.....
 Jesus invites us to join Him in the **life of eternal value** now...

He goes into great detail to define that life...

- And warn of the pitfalls

He wants us to enjoy **the fullness & freedom of life...**

- And He doesn't leave us guessing what that is

.....
NEXT WEEK: "Building eternal life with Him, Now"