

# Recognizing the Path to Life

*Matthew 7:13-23*

***What is the tell-tale sign that you are on the path to life?***

1. There is a path to life.
2. It is marked by obedience to God.

**The path to life is marked by obedience to God.**

## Small Group Questions:

- 1). Tell about a time when you got lost. Give details: why did you get lost, how long were you lost, what made you realize you were lost, what if any consequences were there, how did you get found?
- 2). Look at Matthew 7:13-29 in two or more different English translations. What sub-headings do these insert and where? Do these match one another? How might these sub-headings be helpful for readers here? Are there any drawbacks to relying on sub-headings here?
- 3). Read Matthew 7:13-14 again. How do you think people who are not Christians in your workplace, school, or family would respond to this claim? How might you respond to them?
- 4). What does it mean to recognize someone by their fruit? If in examination of someone's fruit, one concludes that another is a false prophet, does this contradict what Jesus said about not judging others in 7:1-2? Should someone who identifies a false prophet warn others or zip their lips? Use other parts of Scripture to make your case.
- 5). What's your reaction to the self-deceit evidenced in 7:21-23? On what basis did these people think they were "good with God?" On what basis did Jesus say, "depart from me?"
- 6). In verse 23 what does it mean to "know" God, according to this passage? Compare this verse with Jeremiah 9:23-24. How does the Jeremiah passage compare/contrast with what it means to know God in Matthew 7:23?
- 7). On a popular level, what are some things that people might appeal to claim that they "know" God?