

Growth Group Study Questions May 10th

Opener Question

1. Have you ever realized later that a voice, influence, or piece of advice you trusted was actually leading you in the wrong direction? What made it convincing at first?

Read Matthew 7:13-14

2. In what ways can the “wide road” still appear spiritual or morally acceptable on the surface? Why is discernment necessary even within religious environments?

3. Jesus says the road to destruction is “easy” and the road to life is “hard.” Why do you think people are naturally drawn toward what is broad and easy rather than what is narrow and life-giving?

Read Matthew 7:15-20

4. Jesus warns about false prophets immediately after speaking about the narrow and wide roads. Why do you think those warnings are connected? How can false teaching subtly redirect people away from the way of Jesus?

5. Jesus says false prophets come in “sheep’s clothing.” What are some ways spiritual deception can appear convincing, attractive, or even godly from the outside?

6. Jesus says false prophets are recognized by their fruit. In the context of Matthew 5–7, what kinds of fruit would reveal whether someone is truly leading people toward the Kingdom Jesus describes?

7. Jesus asks, “Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles?” Some forms of false teaching are immediately recognizable. What are some examples of teaching or influence that clearly contradict the character and teaching of Jesus?

8. Jesus speaks seriously about trees that bear bad fruit being cut down. What does this warning reveal about how seriously God takes spiritual influence and teaching?