Redemption Road - Two Roads Diverge... February 18, 2018

We've all experienced the tension between wanting to walk a committed life of following Jesus, but then feeling pulled back to the wide, easy road of a comfortable life. Unfortunately, abundant life isn't found along the easy road. It's found when we submit ourselves to our teacher Jesus and follow him along the narrow, more difficult road. Let's explore this a little bit more!

- 1. Share about a time when you chose the easy path over the hard path. It could be a time when you chose to indulge in the chocolate cake instead of eating the carrots. It might be when you preferred to sleep in late, miss class, and then failed your exam. Were you satisfied after you made that decision? Why or why not?
- 2. Read Matthew 7:13-14 out loud. We all experience the allure of the wide road in various ways. Share one or two things that uniquely call you away from the narrow road of discipleship.
- 3. Matthew 7:14 says that the way that leads to life is hard and those who find it are few. Why do you think only a few people actually discover this life?
- 4. Before you started following Jesus, how would you have characterized the abundant life? How does Matthew 6:24-26 challenge human assumptions about the abundant life?
- 5. In light of what we just talked about from Matthew 7 and Matthew 6, what is God calling us to do in response?
- 6. How will we live out our response in the coming week?