

Strengthening Apostolic Families Everywhere



"Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

Matthew 7: 14



The Straight and Narrow

There is an old saying, "That person is straight as an arrow." This comment is usually meant as a compliment. It would indicate that he or she is honest, trustworthy, and dependable. On the other hand, if you hear someone say, "He is as crooked as a snake," maybe you should steer clear of that person. You may get cheated or lied to!

Jesus spent a lot of time teaching his disciples. These were men from various backgrounds. Among them were several fishermen, a tax collector, and a doctor. Although these were hardworking men, wise, perhaps, in their own occupations, Jesus did not leave it to chance that they would understand the importance of their eternal destiny.

"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat," (Matthew 7: 13). Jesus warned his disciples that the popular way is not always the right way. Oftentimes, we are tempted to keep our mouth shut and just go along with the crowd even when we know in our heart something is wrong with the popular way. Jesus pointed out that the broad road is filled with people, but leads to destruction.

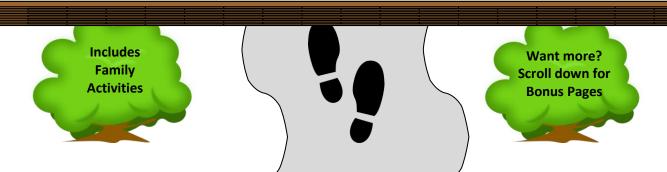
"Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it," (Matthew 7: 14). Contrary to popular opinion, even though we serve a merciful God, not everyone is going to be saved. Jesus said only few would find that straight and narrow way.

With billions of people in this world, God's people often stand out for being different. There is nothing wrong with that. Just because abortion is legal, that does not make it morally and spiritually right. Because immodest clothing is seen everywhere you look, it does not mean that God is pleased with it. We are faced with choices every day. God's people have to make a conscious decision to choose the "straight way."

The road to heaven is not very crowded, but it leads to eternal life!

Family Prayer: Jesus, thank You for giving us Your Word as a roadmap which leads to eternal life. Help me resist the temptation to go along with the crowd on the broad road. I know You are the Way, the Truth, and the Life!

In Jesus' Name, Amen.





Play a game of Tug-O-war. Afterwards explain how we may feel pulled in opposite directions sometimes, but we must follow God's Word. There may be times when the wrong side has a pull on us, but we must dig in and stand for Truth.

Let's talk

What are some popular and accepted issues in our world which are in complete opposition to God's Word? Discuss ways in which a child of God can deal with these issues.

The Apostle Paul said to follow him as he follows Christ. Are there any new converts in the church that you could spend some time with this week and provide a positive influence? Let them see your example of making good choices!



Additional Challenges

Proverbs 16: 25 says, "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

The Bible gives many examples of people who chose their own way and ended up in trouble. Let's take a look at a few.

Genesis 3

- What was the punishment? ______

Joshua 7

- What did he do?

Jonah 1

- Who disobeyed God? ______
- What was his disobedience? _______

I Samuel 15

- What was the punishment? (verse 26) ________

God's way is always the best way!

Puzzle Page

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CHOICES
DESTINY
GATE
NARROW
STRAIGHT

DECISION
DISCIPLES
HONEST
ROAD
TEACHING

DEPENDABLE
ETERNAL
MERCIFUL
SAVED
TRUSTWORTHY

