Ice Breaker Question:
What is your favorite fruit to eat and why?

Read and discuss this week's scripture [Matthew 7:15-29].

1. At the beginning of this passage, Jesus is addressing leaders in the church. What attributes do you think are most important and what attributes are least important for church leaders?

2. Jesus says “a good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.” In other words, you can see the health of a tree based on its fruit. Give some examples of fruit Jesus might be talking about. How are you doing in producing fruit in your life?

3. Jesus says that he will say to some people, “I never knew you.” What do you think it means for God to know us? Does it scare you to think about God knowing you? What is the connection between God knowing us and us knowing him?

4. In Matthew 7:24-27, Jesus says the one who puts his words into practice is wise. One who does not put Jesus’s words into practice is foolish. Dale Bruner says, “Christians must not fool themselves into thinking that either hearing good teaching or studying the Bible are by themselves doing the will of the Father.” Do you ever fool yourself into thinking that?

5. As we finish this series on Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount, what are some of Jesus’ words you need to put into practice? Here are some reminders of what Jesus says:
   - Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. (Matt 5:7)
   - Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you (Matt 5:44)
   - Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. (Matt 6:10)
   - Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. (Matt 6:34)

6. At the end of the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew says that “the crowds were astounded at his teaching.” What astounds you about Jesus? Do you still have some amazement in your current faith that you had when you first had faith in Jesus?

Prayer Requests:
> Prayers of healing for Harry Milli, Hadley Lehr, Jim Bauldauf, Jim Jett, and Kristyn Looney.