

“Warning: Hazardous To Your Comfort Zone”

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We are to be different from the world around us-different priorities, different values, different approaches to our finances, etc. This theme is throughout scripture.

Matthew 7:13-27 Looking at “Authentic Christianity”

Section 1-The Authentic Road (Matthew 7:13-14)

- Jesus says there are only two roads and they only lead to two very different destinations.
- One _____ is narrow and difficult; one is broad and comfortable.
- One _____ is small and narrow; one is wide.
- Many are on the broad comfortable road while relatively few choose the narrow road.
- The question becomes “what is the gate and how do we get on the road?” John 14:5-6

Are Christians intolerant and judgmental?

- True _____ means a spirit of charity, civility, respect, and kindness when someone is wrong or we believe they are wrong.
- False tolerance means one is supposed to _____ every position. We have no right to say one is right and the other is wrong. Sincerity is the key issue.
- _____ tolerance is simply not an option that Jesus gives.
- Misguided and/or faulty _____.

Section 2 -Inauthentic Teachers (Matthew 7:15-20)

Jesus knew:

- There would be false _____.
- They would appear to be _____.
- They would have _____.
- There was such a thing as _____.
- They would offer something easy and attractive.
- They would be _____.

Therefore, assess: Life and conduct

_____ content
_____ of followers – fruit of Spirit in people’s lives

Section 3-Inauthentic Christians (Matthew 7:21-23)

- They know who Jesus is.
- They are _____ connected.
- They have also done many good things.
- They have also missed the mark:
 - They have not turned over their will to Christ. They haven’t let God be God.
 - There was no _____ (“I never knew you”).

Section 4-Two Houses (Matthew 7:24-27)

- The houses look the same and are made of the same material.
- The _____ is the key.
- _____ will come.

Talk It Over . . . with your friends, family, or Growth Group

Talking through the ideas presented in Sunday's message helps us apply God's word to our individual lives. These questions and thoughts are designed to help you put His words into action in your life this week.

What is your main "take-away" from this week? How do you plan to live that out?

What do you think about Jesus' teaching that there are only "two roads"?

How do you define "tolerance"? Do you think the description of tolerance has changed over the past years?

What makes a person "intolerant"?

Have you found following Christ to be a "wide easy road" or a more "narrow and difficult one"?

Can you think of some false teachers that you have run across? How did you determine that they were "false"? Did they have charisma?

As you think about it, what is the foundation your spiritual house is built on?

How would you describe an "authentic Christian"?

Read over the various scriptures presented in this week's sermon and think about what God might be teaching you. (Note: these might be different than what was presented in the sermon.)

Review Question #1: What has been the main hindrance to your being different from the world around you?

Review Question #2: What has the main the main hindrance to your making a difference in the world?

