

**A City on a Hill**  
**Week 4 Study Guide**



**Introduction - The Path**

I would say the most of us started our lives with the idea of being extraordinary; astronaut, doctor, super hero but somewhere along the way we simply wanted to be normal and fit in.

This pull toward average trickled into our spiritual lives also. We simply want to be average but average isn't working. Jesus gives us warning about taking the broad road, the average road. What path are you on?

**Now look at Matthew 7:13-23**

1. Jesus concludes His sermon with four warnings which use contrasting images. The first three occur in **7:13-23**. In the chart below, note the contrasting images and summarize the warning Jesus is giving.

	<b>Two Kinds of:</b>	<b>How are they distinguishable from one another?</b>	<b>Whis is Jesus warning about?</b>
<b>7:13-14</b>	gates/ ways		
<b>7:15-18</b>	teachers		
<b>7:21-23</b>	followers		

2. How does what Jesus teaches about the gate and way in **7:14** reinforce what He taught in **5:10-11**?
3. What types of sheep's clothing might false prophets wear today (**7:15**)?

How is a false prophet like a ferocious wolf?

4. If we are to recognize a false prophet by his fruit, what types of fruit should we look for **(7:16-20)**? List some thoughts below. Look back at **5:19** to help with your answer.
  
5. How do Jesus' words in **7:21-23** build on what He said in **5:20** regarding the nature of true righteousness?
  
6. All three warnings call us to discern (judge) truth from error. How is this form of judging different from that forbidden in **7:1-6**?
  
7. What tool is essential to be able to discern the true gate/way, true prophets and true followers? Read **Hebrews 4:12** to help with your answer.

**Apply:**

**How do Jesus' warnings challenge our current culture that trumpets the message, "Live your truth"? What help and assurance should we as believers take from these warnings?**

**Confess to God those areas of life where you need to stop thinking like everyone else does and instead like God's way.**

**Ask God to help you remove all normal thinking out of your life. Allow Him to purify your mind.**

**Commit to God that you will strive to pursue Christ in every area of life so that your focus is solely on Him.**

**Ask God to show you the life that He has designed just for you.**

**Pray for those you know who are trapped in their normal way of thinking. Ask God to help them become followers of Jesus.**