**Matthew 7**

1. **Warnings about judging and criticizing others (verses 1& 2).**
   1. “Judge not” doesn’t mean that through logical reasoning we won’t form negative opinions about others. It does however prohibit us from hypocritical judgment.
   2. The standard we use to judge others is used against us.
2. **Oftentimes those who criticize fail to examine themselves (verses 3-5).**
   1. He looks for fault in others,
   2. But fails to search himself.
      1. Romans 3:10; Romans 3:23
      2. 1 John 1:8
   3. Those who criticized are oftentimes deceived about their true state.
   4. Consider our sins and address them before we concern ourselves with the sins of others.
3. **Rely upon God’s righteous judgment (verse 6).** 
   1. There are those undeserving of true treasure.
   2. Don’t give that which is holy to those who decisively reject it.
4. **Ask, seek and knock (verses 7- 11)**
   1. Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you (Matthew 7:7)
   2. Be persistent in our prayers.
   3. God cares for His children.
5. **Love; this is the Law & the Prophets, (verse 12)**
   1. Love is the fulfillment of the Law & the Prophets.
      1. Matthew 22:39-40; Romans 13:10; Galatians 5:14; James 2:8; Deuteronomy 10:12; 1 Corinthians 13:4-7
      2. The point is that love seeks the best for all.
   2. The Golden rule, pushes us to do right by others.
6. **Life decisions can lead us to one of two routes (verses 13-14)**
   1. One path of life, the wide gate stands before all us.
      1. You don’t have to put forth any effort to enter this gate.
      2. The wide gate is the world
      3. Galatians 5:19-21; Romans 3:23; Proverbs 14:12
   2. The narrow gate is one that needs to be searched for and found.
      1. Luke 9:23, Proverbs 11:19
      2. This path is difficult, and hard to find.
7. **Jesus warns about false prophets (verses 15-20)**
   1. Jesus sends a clear and strong message to “beware” to guard ourselves from false prophets.
      1. Outwardly they are like sheep
      2. Inwardly they are as “ravenous wolves.”
      3. Their revealing trait will be their fruit.
   2. Their fruit exposes them.
   3. 2 Peter 2:1; 1 John 4:1-3
8. **Jesus warns against self-deception (verses 21-23)**
   1. We must do more than profess
   2. We must also do the Will of God.
9. **The wise and foolish Builder (Verses 24-27)**
   1. The wise builder hears the instructions and obeys them.
   2. The foolish builder hears the instructions but does not obey.
10. **Jesus teaches with true authority (verses 28-29)**
    1. Jesus teaches with the authority of God.
    2. The true impact of Jesus teachings can be seen in verse 28, where we see that the “crowds were amazed at His teachings”
    3. Luke 4:43; Luke 19:10
    4. This concludes Jesus’s sermon on the Mount.