

Creekside Community Church
Return of the King: The Gospel of Matthew
July 23rd, 2017
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Warning Signs: Matthew 7:13-29

- 1. The Danger of Comfort (Matthew 7:13-14)**

- 2. The Danger of Hypocrisy (Matthew 7:15-20)**

- 3. The Danger of “Success” (Matthew 7:21-23)**

- 4. The Danger of Knowledge (Matthew 7:24-27)**

For further thought and discussion:

Getting Started

1. Can you think of a recent time where you failed to heed someone’s warning? Who warned you? What did they warn you about? How did you respond? What happened as a result?

Going Deeper

2. In this passage, Jesus contrasts genuine faith with four alternatives (see vv. 13-14; vv. 15-20; vv. 21-23; vv. 24-27). Describe these alternatives. How are they similar? How are they different?
3. In vv. 13-14, Jesus contrasts two roads. What's the difference between these roads? Is Jesus simply drawing a contrast between moral and immoral behavior, or something deeper? Where are you tempted to choose comfort over costly discipleship?
4. In vv. 15-20, Jesus shows us how to distinguish between true and false prophets/teachers. How can we detect false teachers? In what ways (if any) are you tempted to act hypocritically?
5. In vv. 21-23, Jesus distinguishes between true and false confessions of faith. What's the primary difference between the false disciples mentioned here, and those mentioned in vv. 15-20? In what ways can we mistake "*success*" for genuine discipleship to Jesus? In what ways (if any) are you tempted to do this?
6. In vv. 24-27, Jesus distinguishes between those who merely hear his words, and those who put them into practice. What, according to Jesus, reveals the genuineness of a person's faith? How can knowledge become a substitute for faith and obedience? Have you ever succumbed to this temptation? If so, share your experience with the group.

Application:

7. What's one thing you can apply this week from this passage?