

# THE GOOD LIFE

## \* Sermon on the Mount \*

One Rule, Two Paths 9/10

**Matthew 7:12-14 (NLT)**

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**Jesus:** In my kingdom, I expect my disciples to choose a new **rule** & a **narrow** path.

*How does Jesus expect his disciples to treat people?*

Follow the new rule.

- **Matthew 7:12–14 (NLT)** 12 “Do to others whatever **you would like** them to do to you. This is the essence of all that is taught in the law and the prophets.
- Unique & extraordinary aspect of Jesus’s selfless love: he treats us the way HE deserves to be treated.

*Which path does Jesus expect his disciples to choose?*

Choose the narrow path.

- 13 “You can enter God’s Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way. 14 But the gateway to life is very narrow and the road is difficult, and only a few ever find it.

### **What Now?**

1. Reflect on your life rule — inspect what’s driving the way you treat difficult people.
2. If you’re following Jesus, don’t be surprised when your path gets uncomfortable, difficult or unpopular.
3. If you’re not following Jesus but looking for life now & life eternal, don’t forget Jesus claims he himself is the narrow gate.

### **CONTINUING THE CONVERSATION**

1. Have you noticed any dominant philosophies that seem to drive the way people treat people in our current society?
2. Can you think of a way your life might change if you were able to treat that “someone” the way you want to be treated?
3. The few who’ve elected to follow Jesus have chosen to reject the easy & popular ‘hell-path’ full of lust, pride and self glory (7:13-14). How & why have you chosen the more difficult narrow path – AKA what’s your story?