

“Strive to Enter Through the Narrow Door”

Sermon Notes

□ **As future citizens of Christ's kingdom we have been given much – and to whom much is given, much will be demanded**

1. It's not enough to _____ the kingdom, you must
_____ to enter it (vv. 22-28a; 16:16; Matthew 11:12)

2. If you're a kingdom-bound _____, never forget
your unspeakably _____
(vv.28b-30; Romans 11:17-22; Ephesians 2:11-22;
Matthew 15:21-25)

Next Week: Luke 13:31-35 - “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem”

MEFC Community Group Study Questions
For the Week of May 20th – 26th

Getting Started

1. Skim back over the Gospel of Luke to this point (1:1-13:21). Which text (or texts) have been most personally encouraging to your faith? Why?

Digging Deeper

2. Which text (or texts) have been the most convicting to you personally? Why?

Open Your Bible to Luke 13:22-30...

3. In 13:22, Luke notes Jesus' progress toward Jerusalem (yet again). This is one of nine such references in his Gospel (9:51, 53; 13:22, 33; 17:11; 18:31; 19:11, 28, 41). Why is Luke so meticulous to track this for us?

4. What (do you imagine) is behind the questioner's question in v.23? Have you ever wondered the same thing? Is there a benefit in knowing the answer to this question? If so, what?

5. In Matthew 7:13-14, Jesus addresses the answer to this question much more directly. According to Matthew 7:13-14, what's the answer to Luke 13:23?

6. How does Jesus actually answer the question in the context of Luke 13:24? What's the effect of responding this way instead of how he speaks in Matthew 7:13-14? What is Jesus getting done in the heart of his listeners?

7. Verses 25-28a make it clear that a false assurance of salvation is not uncommon. Joel Beeke once said that: "False assurance of salvation is worse than no assurance of salvation." Agree or disagree? Why?

8. The Scriptures invite us to "test" ourselves to see if we are of the faith and to make our "calling and election sure" (2 Corinthians 13:5; 2 Peter 1:10). How do we do that? If you're stuck, consider the teaching in 1 John 2:1-6, 15-17; 3:9-10, 14; 4:7-11, 20; 5:1-5, 13. What does the Letter of 1 John teach us about the nature of assurance of salvation?

9. How often do you consider the grace upon grace that you have received – not just as a believer in Jesus, but a *Gentile* believer at that? The Bible makes more of this reality than we might realize. Take a look at Romans 11:17-22; Ephesians 2:11-22 and Matthew 15:21-28. Carefully discuss and consider the thrust of these texts as a group. What clear commands and lines of wisdom are here in these passages for folks like us?