

The Golden Rule is the Narrow Road
Matthew 7:12-14

Main Point: The path of Christian discipleship is _____-but take heart because this path leads to _____

Common misconceptions about these verses:

1. Context-This passage is not primarily about _____ but about _____

2. Audience-This passage is not addressed to _____ but to believers (Mt. 5:1-2)

I. The Golden Rule is the _____ of Jesus teachings to His disciples

Matthew 7:12

-The _____ teaches God's people how to love Him and love others-it is not just a bunch of random rules-it is for our _____!
Matthew 22:36-40

-The Golden Rule is Jesus' way of showing us what _____ for others looks like

Romans 13:8-10

-We must consider how we want people to _____ us and then _____ others accordingly-that is loving your neighbor

-The Golden Rule can only truly be fulfilled by _____ of Jesus because it all starts with a person's _____ to God

II. After finishing His teaching, Jesus now tells His disciples that they must not just _____ this teaching but _____ it out

Matthew 7:13

Matthew 7:28-29

III. Jesus contrasts two ways of life (_____ pleaser versus a _____ pleaser) by giving an illustration of two paths

Matthew 7:13-14

Path of Obedience

Path of Disobedience

-The path of godliness has a _____ gate	-The path of self has a _____ gate
-The path of godliness is only found by a _____	-The path of self is taken by the vast _____ of people
-The path of godliness is narrow and _____ going	-The path of self is spacious and _____ going
-The path of godliness leads all of its travelers to _____ evermore	-The path of self leads all of its travelers to _____

IV. Jesus is being _____ with His disciples and is telling them that the path of _____ that He has just laid out in the Sermon on the Mount is: narrow, not popular, and hard

Jesus never promotes an _____-believism gospel-He tells us repeatedly to count the cost and to realize that His way is _____
Luke 14:24-35

We must understand that the path of true Christianity is _____
Matthew 10:38-39
Luke 9:57-62

We must understand that the path of true Christianity is not _____
John 6:66-67

We must understand that the path of Christianity is _____
Acts 14:22

-It is hard because we live in the _____
-It is hard because we still are fighting our _____ flesh
-It is hard because people will _____ us and sin against us

VI. Don't lose _____ because the path of obedience leads to _____ evermore with the one who went before us on this path
Matthew 24:13

Jesus _____ the path of obedience so that we might be able to also, through faith in Him, walk the same path that leads to _____