

## TAKING IT HOME- How can I know that I am saved?

### A. AFFIRM

1. Lord Jesus, I confess that I am a sinner. I have broken your good, holy laws...
2. I believe you died on the cross and rose again to pay for my sin. I trust you to forgive me. I rest in your work on the cross.
3. I now want to deny myself, take up my cross and follow you all the days of my life.

### B. ABIDE

1. Read & meditate on a passage of Scripture
2. Release- Lord Jesus, I give you everyone and everything.
3. Connect- Lord Jesus, heal our union.
4. Get filled- Holy Spirit fill me up. Flow through me. Bear your fruit in my life.

### C. ACT- take the next year to turn your life upside down- Get Radical in 2023 (See Platt, p. 218)

1. I want to become a world caring Christian- I will pray for the entire world.
2. I want to become a Word loving Christian- I will read through the entire Word this year.
3. I want to become a giving Christian- I will tithe to my church and give extra for a specific purpose
4. I want to become a serving Christian- I will spend time in another cultural context- mission trip, service trip.
5. I want to become a growing Christian- I will commit my life to a multiplying community- weekly church attendance and a small group, Bible Study, or Battle Buddy
6. I want to become a sharing Christian- I will B.L.E.S.S. my unsaved friends & neighbors- Pray, Listen, Eat, Serve, Share

- ❖ **WHAT'S GOD SAYING TO YOU?** – write it down, pray it back, DO IT, and share it with others!  
“Heavenly Father, I trust in Jesus as my Lord and Savior- the narrow gate. I want to follow Him on the narrow road. Thank you! I want to become a world caring, Word loving, giving, serving, growing and sharing radical follower of Jesus! I hear You saying...

## RADICAL- THE NARROW GATE & THE NARROW ROAD - Mt 7:13-14, 1/8/23

### GETTING OUR FEET WET- David Platt- Radical- the impact of a mission trip. New eyes-

- Our churches
- Our gospel
- Our lifestyle
- The common theme
- The scary question

### DIVING INTO SCRIPTURE

#### I. BIG PICTURE- Mt 7:13-29

- Narrow & wide gates & roads- 13-14
- Good & bad trees- 15-20
- “I never knew you”- 21-23
- Wise & foolish builders- 24-27

#### II. THE NARROW GATE

##### A. God's side- Jn 14:6

##### B. Our side-

1. Believe- Jn 3:16
2. Repent- Mt 4:17, 18:3
3. Get b \_\_\_\_\_ - Acts 2:38
4. F \_\_\_\_\_ - Lk 9:23-26, 57-62

Lk 9<sup>23</sup> Then he said to them all: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. <sup>24</sup> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses

their life for me will save it. <sup>25</sup> What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very soul? <sup>26</sup> Whoever is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. <sup>62</sup> Jesus replied, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.”

### III. THE NARROW ROAD

#### A. Sign posts of the Road

1. Present tense
2. Purpose of a gate
3. Jesus’ command- Follow Me- 22x
4. How Christians are described
  - Follower/ disciple – 268x
  - Believer- 59x
  - Christian- 3x

#### B. God’s side- What is the Narrow Road?

1. Jesus- Jn 14:6
2. The Word- Ps 119:105
3. The Holy Spirit- Rom 8:14

#### C. Our side- continue to believe & follow Jesus – Lk 9:23

- Jesus- will judge between trees, soils, wheat & weeds, fish, wise & foolish, talents, sheep & goats – Mt 7, 13, 25

|               |   |  |
|---------------|---|--|
|               | MODERN “CHRISTIAN” – Gate only  | KINGDOM FOLLOWER- Gate & Road  |
| Believe       | Mental assent, point in time, do not need to follow through                           | Trust, rest, that results in obedience. Point in time & life-long.         |
| Repent        | Not needed, or just a change of mind about Jesus, justification by faith              | Change of mind, heart and action. Life-long.                               |
| Jesus         | Savior yes, Lord optional, extra credit   | King, Judge, Savior, Lord, Model, Friend                                   |
| Holy Spirit   | Optional-the Spirit is kind of scary, for extra spiritual Christians, loss of rewards | Essential- the only way to live the Christian/kingdom life                 |
| Purpose       | To go to heaven- minimum entrance requirement   | To go to heaven & bring heaven down. To be like Jesus- word, thought, deed |
| Love God      | Optional- at church, devotions, giving  | In all of life   |
| Love Neighbor | Optional- loss of rewards   | Essential- part of the kingdom, true faith and repentance                  |

(see Right Now Media, John Ortberg, “Kingdoms”)

### IV. THE BIG QUESTION- Does that mean we are saved by works?

#### A. The answer

1. We are not saved by works, but the faith that saves w\_\_\_\_\_ (Eph 2, Jas 2)
2. The faith that saves p\_\_\_\_\_
3. We don’t work for salvation but from salvation.
4. Works are not a requirement for salvation but a result, a reality, and response to salvation
  - A result- “by faith...not works... we are his workmanship created to do good works” Eph 2:8-10
  - A reality- “If a man abides in me, he will bear much fruit” Jn 15:5
  - A response- “In view of God’s mercy... offer your bodies” Rom 12:1

#### B. Some clarifications

1. It’s a road not a t\_\_\_\_\_
2. It’s a road that’s a r\_\_\_\_\_ - Follow Me- 22x
3. If you fall off the road...
  - Jesus promises to come looking for you- Lk 15:3-7
  - Jesus commands His followers to look for you too- Jude 22-23
  - You can get back on- David, Peter, the churches of Revelation 2-3