

## Study Guide

**Message:** Warning to Compromised Followers – ‘I never knew you.’

**Messenger:** Pastor Keith

**Date:** June 22, 2025

**Scripture:** Matthew 7.21-23 (NKJV)



**Objective:** Jesus is teaching His disciples about being genuine followers. Our teaching will center on not being *compromised* followers of Christ.

**Context:** verses 13-20 – Jesus talks about the gate that is an entry into the kingdom and identifying false prophets.

1. Jesus referenced two paths to take in life – verses 13-14:
  - a) \_\_\_\_\_ gate: it's hard to enter, the way is difficult, and few find it – but it leads to life. – Self-denial lifestyle – you reject this life and pick up the cross and follow Christ as Lord.
  - b) \_\_\_\_\_ gate: it's easy to enter, the path is broad, and many go through it - but it leads to destruction. Indulgent lifestyle - you place your desires above the cross and Jesus's Lordship.
2. False prophets are known by their \_\_\_\_\_.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ followers do not outright reject following Christ, but they comingle godliness and worldliness.

**Reflection:** Which path are you walking and the cost to follow that path?

**Discussion:** How do you discern the prophet (pastor) in your life?

**Action to take:** Examine one area where your lifestyle may be drifting toward the wide gate and not the narrow path.

### Message Points:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ talk: v.21. ‘Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord’ shall enter into the kingdom of heaven – Reference Matthew 15.8

**Reflection:** Do I profess Christ or possess Christ?

**Discussion:** Why do you think Jesus warned us about not everyone who calls Him ‘Lord’ will enter the kingdom?

**Action to take:** Choose one area where you can obey Jesus more fully as the Lord of your life.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ profession: 'but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Reference: Luke 6.46

**Reflection:** Do I know if I'm in the will of God?

**Discussion:** What are some indicators in your life that show you're doing the will of the Father - not perfectly but faithfully? Does it mean to be in God's will?

**Action to take:** Choose one area where you can obey Jesus more fully as the Lord of your life.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ works: v22. Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' Reference: I Samuel 15.22

**Reflection:** Am I depending on what I've done for Jesus instead of whether I truly know Him?

**Discussion:** How can we help others around us pursue a relationship with Jesus over religious activity?

**Action to take:** Check my motives for ministry?

4. \_\_\_\_\_ relationship: **v.23.** And then I will declare to them, '*I never knew you*'; Reference: John 10.14

**Reflection:** What does it truly mean for Jesus to 'know me and I know Him'?

**Discussion:** What kind of knowing is Jesus talking about?

**Action to take:** Choose one area where you can obey Jesus more fully as the Lord of your life.

5. \_\_\_\_\_ from His presence: v23. ....depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness – compromised follower. I John 3.9

**Reflection:** What will Jesus say to me on the Day of judgment?

**Discussion:** How does God's judgment reveal about His character – especially His love, justice, and holiness?

**Action to take:** Examine my walk of holiness to ensure I am not a compromised follower of Christ.