Digging Deeper



Message Recap:

Read Matthew 7:13-14, Luke 9:22-26, John 10:7b

We all have to make up our minds whether our lives will be a "Yes" or a "No" to God. To say "Yes" is to commit to a life-path of doing God's will at a very high personal cost. Our "No" is anything less. Few will live the life Jesus gives. The "broad way" is as narrow as you and your broken. The "narrow way" is as big as Jesus and His (re-)creation. The "easy" way ends up the hard way, and the hard way ends up the best way. That's the Good News. Choose to obey on the narrow way! Who we serve through the week is who we love on Sunday.

Pray

Lord, thank you for loving us! Jesus, thank you for giving us a path to righteousness! We give you our "Yes"! Let our decision to follow your way lead us to action. We pray that we would gain understanding of what it means to follow your ways. Let us not be fooled into believing that manmade religion is "good enough". Send us wherever you want to send us. We will allow ourselves to be loved and to be love in the world. Amen.

Choose to Obey on the Narrow Way

Week of June 2, 2019

These Digging Deeper questions can be used the week following the Sunday message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your family or Connect Group discussions.

Getting Started

- Where is your favorite place to go during the Summer?
- Why do you think nature (ocean, mountains, night sky, etc.) so often leads our thoughts to God?

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- 1. Read Matthew 7:13-14 and John 10:7b. Why is the destruction gate so wide? Why is the life gate so narrow?
- 2. Is there a difference between obviously denying God and deceptively hiding behind the facade of religion? Is one better than the other? In what ways?
- 3. If someone wants to say "Yes" to Jesus invitation to follow Him, what would you suggest they do to be all in with their decision?
- 4. Our egos lead us to be more than just prideful. How can a negative focus on ourselves keep us away from Christ?
- 5. Is your life dominated by the energy and emotion of your brokenness, or by the focusing power of your personal resurrection in Christ?
- 6. We are called to take up our cross daily (Luke 9:23). What can you be doing during the week to take up your cross?

Living Jesus

Jesus has invited us to be followers, not fans. We have a choice that will inevitably lead to action in one way or another. How do I obey the "Narrow" way?

1. Accept your resurrection (John 11:25). The old has gone and the new has come!

2. Make your life about making disciples (Matthew 28:18-20). What does God want me to do?

3. Look for the least to love through the week (Matthew 25:37-40).

What's Your Story?

Have you made a decision to say "Yes" to God? If so, what lead you to that decision and what came next? Share your story with others to encourage them as they are faced with the same decision.

Share how God is working in your life at <u>SevernRunner.info/stories</u>.

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