

Thornbury Baptist Church
Small Group Discussion Questions

Talk Date: October 19th 2025

Talk title: Two gates, two paths, one choice

Passage: Matthew 7:13-14

Speaker: Helen Webb

Discussion Questions

- How does Jesus describe the "wide gate" and the "wide path"? What are some reasons this path might be attractive to many people?
- How are the "narrow gate" and "narrow path" described? Why do so few find it?
- What does Jesus say is the ultimate destination for each path?
- How do these two verses connect with Jesus' teaching in the Sermon on the Mount?
- When do you feel most tempted to leave the narrow path and continue your journey on the wide path?
- What comforts and difficulties have you experienced while walking the "narrow path"?
- How does understanding the original Greek word for "narrow" (stenos) as "pinched" "squeezed" or "difficult" impact your view of the Christian journey?
- Although Jesus is 'the gate', we don't leave him behind: he is also our travelling companion on the narrow path (e.g. Matthew 28:20; John 14:18; Hebrews 13:5). How does this affect our journey on the narrow path?
- What other examples can you think of where Jesus talks about gates, doors, entrances to God's kingdom? Are there examples in the Old Testament as well?
- Why do you think the idea of an exclusive path to salvation can be difficult for many people to accept?
- Reflect on a time when you were tempted to take the wide path. What scripture or principle or person helped you choose the narrow path instead?
- In what ways can we help each other stay on the narrow path, and how can we contribute to others' journeys?

Optional Activity

Divide into two groups to brainstorm what travelling the "broad path" and the "narrow path" looks like in modern life. Then, come back together to discuss the differences, using personal examples where you can.

Takeaway

What is the main thing each person is taking away from this discussion?

Spend time praying with one another in the light of your discussion.