

SERMON NOTE: Becoming A Contagious Church-You Must Choose "Two Gates, Two Trees, Two Foundations"

By: Rev Dr Chuah SP

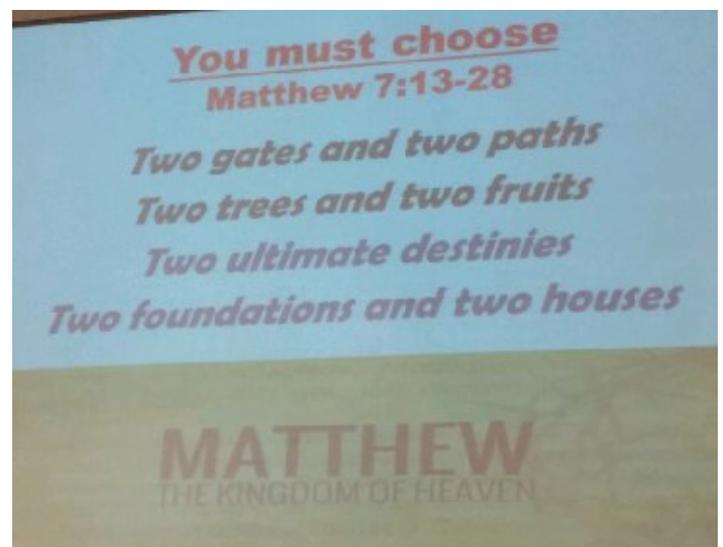
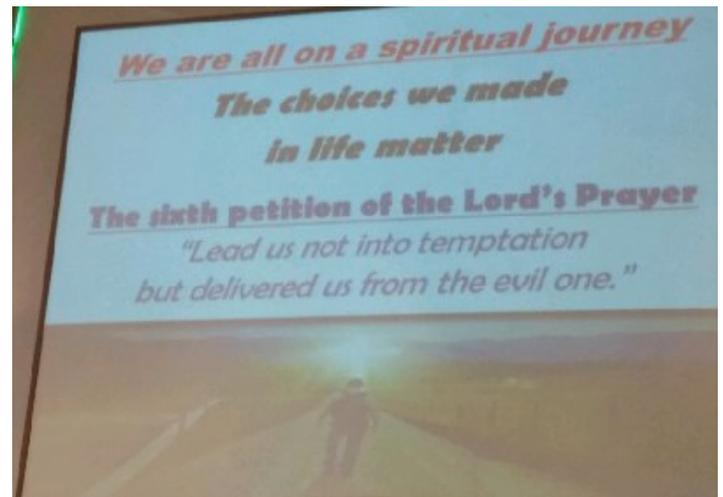
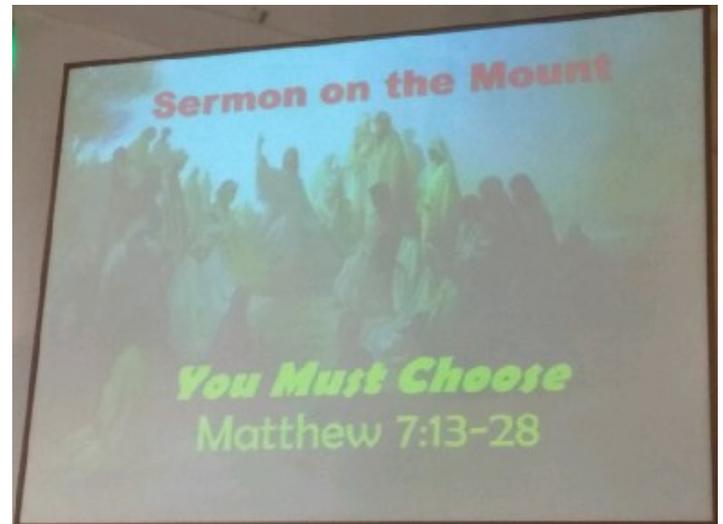


Bible Ref: Matthew 7:13-28 NIV

“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it. “Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them. “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’ Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’ “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose,

and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.” When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching,

<https://bible.com/bible/111/mat.7.13-28.NIV>



Two gates and two paths

¹³ Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it.

¹⁴ But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.



The narrow gate
Unpopular, less travelled, and difficult.

The wide gate
Popular, widely travelled, and easy.

True and false prophets

¹⁵ Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves.

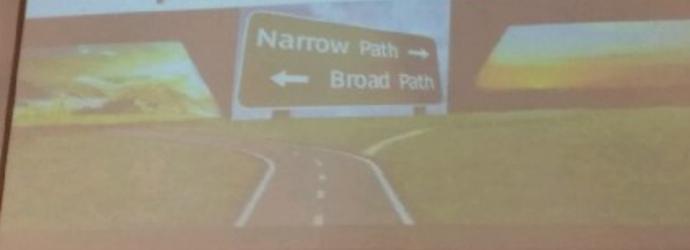
You must discern who you meet on the way



The narrow and the broad path

The new kingdom life in Christ vs.

The attitude and the philosophy of the world

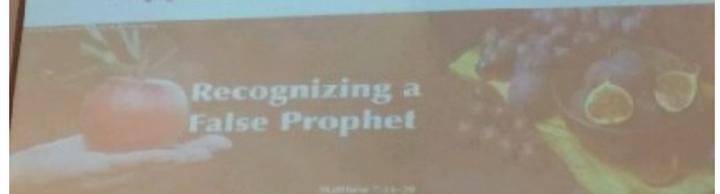


How to recognize them?

¹⁶ By their fruit you will recognise them. Do people pick grapes from thorn-bushes, or figs from thistles?

¹⁷ Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.

Appearance can be deceiving



Recognizing a False Prophet

How do we know which gate?

Follow and Know Jesus

Jesus is the gate John 10:7, 9

⁷ Therefore Jesus said again, "Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁹ I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture.

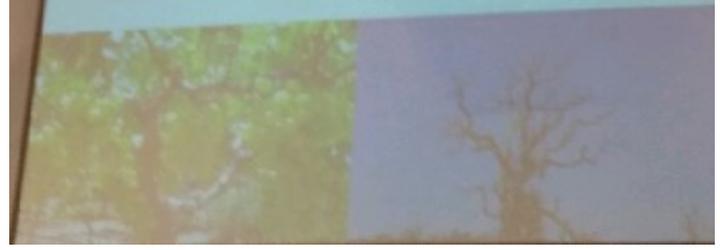


Look at the fruits

By their fruit you will recognise them.

Listen to what they preach carefully

Look at how they live and work



Two trees and two fruits

¹⁵ Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. ¹⁶ By their fruit you will recognise them. Do people pick grapes from thorn-bushes, or figs from thistles?

¹⁷ Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

²⁰ Thus, by their fruit you will recognise them.

It is difficult to spot the counterfeits

Ultimate mark of true disciples

Obedient to His word

God's grace inevitably leads us to obedience in our life



Two ultimate destinies

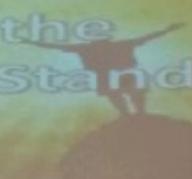
²¹ 'Not everyone who says to me, "Lord, Lord," will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.
²² Many will say to me on that day, "Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?"²³ Then I will tell them plainly, "I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!"

A great warning for the false prophets and the disciples

Build our house on Christ the solid rock

Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.

On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand

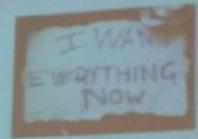


Two foundations and two houses

²⁴ 'Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.'

Post-modern world with its challenges of permissiveness

- Hedonism
- Secularism
- Pluralism
- Relativism

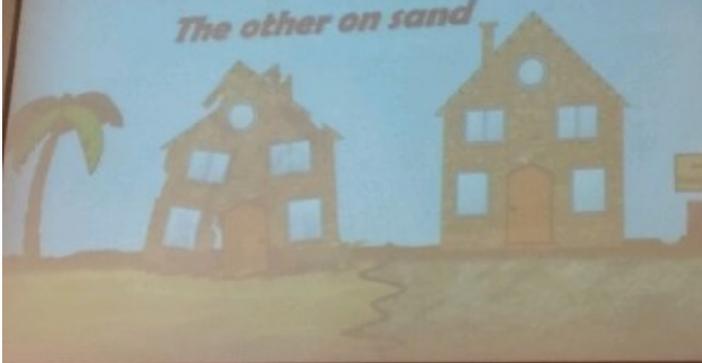


Pleasure seeking instant gratification



The wise and foolish builders

*One built on the rock
The other on sand*



Holy Lighters

Know Him, Trust Him, Obey Him.

Choose the narrow gate of knowing Christ and trusting him and go on the narrow path of the kingdom life of obeying Him.

