

Week 9: The Better Way

Read Matthew 7:13-14.

Our Intentions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How have you heard the phrase “everyone else is doing it” used?• Why is it easier to do what everyone else is doing?• What is popularized in your community or culture right now?
God’s Idea	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What does Jesus mean when he says, “enter through the narrow gate”?• Read Matthew 5:21-22, Matthew 5:27-30. In these verses, how is Jesus calling us to live?• Read Lamentations 3:22-26. What is God’s heart for his people?• <i>God calls us to a higher standard of living not because he wants something from us, but he wants what is best for us.</i>
Social Media’s Influence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the broad road when it comes to social media usage?• How has that lead to destruction?• <i>There is a perceived comfort and satisfaction in going with the rest of the crowd. You will not feel alone on the wide road, but the danger is that it leads to destruction.</i>• What does it look like to walk through the narrow gate with our social media?
Kingdom Intersection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read John 10:9-10.• Read John 14:6.• What does it mean that Jesus is the gate?• Read 2 Corinthians 5:14-17. In verse 15, What does it mean that we would no longer live for ourselves?• What does it mean to be a new creation in Christ?
Implications for Us	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Re-read John 10:10. What does it mean to live a life full of love and freedom in Jesus?• Read 1 Corinthians 10:23. What does this mean and how does it relate?• Read Psalm 23. How should this inform the way we live?

Heart of the Matter: *Jesus calls us to live above minimal expectations of the world and seek his face as “the better way.” Although the path is narrow, He offers us a better way to live in the world and bring His Kingdom to earth. Only by His power can we live a life of true freedom.*