

## Matthew 7:1-28

## Study #8

Step 1: Read the Whole Section: Note any questions and mark any design patterns you notice.

Step 2: Answer the Study Questions

### 7:1-11 Relationships

1. When Jesus begins the sermon, He points out that “unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and the Pharisees you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.” For v.1-6, what is the greater righteousness that Jesus demonstrates in this section?

2. In v.1-6, Jesus is focused on relationships in the community. In your own words, explain the analogy Jesus makes. What is this comparison meant to tell us about criticizing and judging others?

3. v6. Says “Do not give what is holy to dogs and do not throw your pearls before swine.” Has a couple possible interpretations. Below are two different views. Based on the different view of “what is holy”, explain what you think the rest of the passage means. Which do you favor?

(View A) : **“What is holy” = the Gospel**

Then ... “dogs” / “swine” =

“trample them” =

“Attack you” =

(View B) : **“What is holy” = a struggling brother who needs spiritual help...**

Then ... “dogs” / “swine” =

“trample them” =

“Attack you” =

4. In v.7, there are three verbs that the Greek expresses with a linear tense (ongoing or repeated action). Fill in the three verbs with a linear emphasis:

Keep on \_\_\_\_\_ , Keep on \_\_\_\_\_ , Keep on \_\_\_\_\_ .

5. In v.7-11, Jesus again emphasizes God as our Father.

(a) What does Jesus tell us to expect from earthly fathers who are evil?

(b) What does this tell us to expect from Father in heaven who is the ultimate good?

6. A good father will sometimes say “no” or “not yet.”

(a) What does the answer “no” teach us about prayer in this passage?

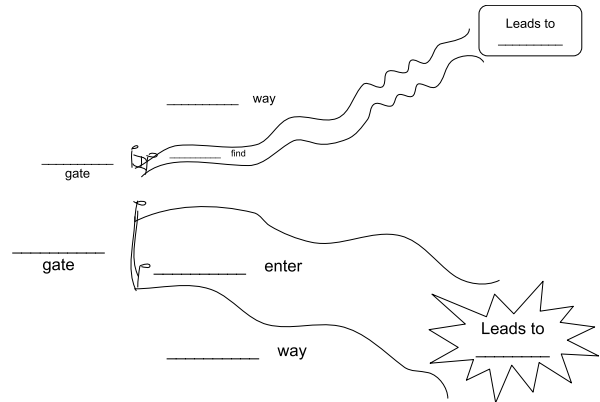
(b) What does the answer “not yet” teach us about prayer?

(c) Take a look back at the Lord’s Prayer (v.11-13). What are some good things that Jesus is counting on His Father to say “yes” to?

7. "The Golden Rule" (7:12) is a summary verse for the main body of the sermon. In your words, what is the Golden Rule?

8. 7:13-23 Conclusion: Judgement Day

Jesus concludes the sermon with warnings and challenges that point us to the Final Day of Judgment. In v.13-14, fill in the diagram showing the difference between these each way: (If you are able, compare different translations)



9. In v.15-19, Jesus warns us about who will lead us on the way to life or destruction. Fill in the following:

- (a) Beware of false \_\_\_\_\_. They can't be recognized right away because they pretend to be \_\_\_\_\_. Inwardly they are \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) How do we finally come to recognize and avoid them?
- (c) How does this judging compare to the judging that Jesus warns against in v.1-6?

10. In v.21-23, what are the false fruits that "many" will point to on the Last Day?

11. What do you think Jesus means by "I never knew you" and what would it mean in contrast when Jesus says to you "I know you"?

12. In the final conclusion, v.24-27, Jesus compares two ways of dealing with his sermon.

- (a) What are the things that the wise man and the fool have in common:
- (b) What are the things that the wise man and the fool differ on:
- (c) What does this analogy point to in real life?

The wise building on the rock = everyone who \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus' sayings  
 The fool building on the sand = everyone who \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus' sayings

13. What is the crowd's reaction to Jesus sermon and why? (v.28)

<p><b>Reflect</b> - Choose a main verse in this section that stands out to you as important or inspiring</p>	
<p><b>Pray</b> - What can I pray for based on this section? (<i>Write out prayer</i>)</p>	