



THIS WAY HOME

Pastor Dwayne Francois // Matthew 7:13-14

FEBRUARY 17-18, 2018

WARM UP

1. One great hit in football changed Dwayne's perspective on the game by giving him humility. Have you ever been through an experience that humbled you and changed your perspective significantly? What's the story?

DIG IN: FOUR PERSONAL CONVICTIONS FOR TAKING THE NARROW AND HARD ROAD HOME

I must do whatever it takes to get back to God (v.13a)

2. The narrow gate is hard to find and difficult to pass through with your pride intact. Why does God challenge our pride so early in the process of coming to him? How then do you keep a servant's attitude as you follow Christ? (See Philippians 3:7-11 for an example from the Apostle Paul.)

The easy road can't save me from destruction (v.13b)

3. What conclusion does Ecclesiastes 2:1-11 draw from the experiment of pursuing pleasure and ease? How do you balance opportunities for pleasure and ease with a passionate pursuit of God?

The hard road prepares me for eternal life (v.14)

4. We must anticipate persecution (2 Timothy 3:12), testing (James 1:2-4), and discipline (Hebrews 12:10-12) along the hard way. What is your typical response to these hard circumstances? Are there better responses you can have, and if so, what are they?

If I remain faithful, God will lead me home (v.15-27)

5. Do you agree that it takes effort to remain faithful? What efforts do you make to keep from being deceived by nice sounding teaching that can't move you closer to God?
6. What do you do to ensure you remain genuine in the expression of your faith and avoid being a fake follower?

BREAK OUT

Are there parts of your life that seem to crumble under pressure? How can you rebuild these areas around the teaching of Jesus Christ? Are there any commitments you should make so that your life remains more solid during difficult situations?