

CONVERSATION GUIDE

Middle-High School

DATE: 11/22/20

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 7:13-29

LESSON: A Call to Decide

INTRO

This conversation guide exists to help parents interact with their middle and high school students. Our goal in having middle and high school students attend gatherings (or worship at home) with their parents is to help them transition toward being adults who are fully functioning members of the church. But most middle and high school students still need some translation and help connecting what they're learning to their lives. We want our sermons to be accessible, but they aren't specifically targeted toward the transitional teenage years.

- **Read Matthew 7:13-14.** Throughout the whole Sermon on the Mount, Jesus has called us to a way of life that is better but often more difficult than normal ways people choose to live. Which parts of His teaching in the Sermon on the Mount do you remember being particularly difficult? (*speaking the truth, radical generosity, loving enemies, having integrity, letting go of bitterness, etc.*)
- **Read Matthew 7:15-23.** How do you think you can tell the difference between people who are telling you God's truth and people who just say what you want to hear?
 - Who are the loudest voices/influences in your life? (*Parents, friends, teachers, SG leaders, celebrities, social media influencers, etc.*)
- **Read Matthew 7:24-27.** What foundations other than Jesus do you see people building their life on? (popularity, money, romantic relationships)? Which of these are most tempting for you?
 - What are some "floods" that might cause those other foundations to become unstable?
- Why does Jesus call us to live this difficult way of life even though it isn't the most comfortable? (*Because He loves us and knows more than we do about what is good for us. He wants to protect us from believing that we can build our life on Him and build our lives on other false foundations at the same time.*)