

**Devotion Guidelines:**

1. Keep it short and interactive
2. Read the Scripture passage together with each person reading a verse
3. Ask questions about each verse
4. Ask each child how they will apply what they have learned from the verses. (Even your young children) You, as a parent, also share what you will apply. Remember that Bible study is for application and transformation not just for information.)
5. Pray together as a family (You and your children can take turns praying)
 - For each other's requests
 - To ask for God's help to apply what you have learned

Read Together:**Matthew 7:13-23**

¹³“Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. ¹⁴For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

¹⁵“Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves.¹⁶ You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes nor figs from thistles, are they? ¹⁷So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit. ¹⁹Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰So then, you will know them by their fruits.

²¹“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. ²²Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’²³ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.’

Talk Together:

1. Describe the two gates mentioned in verses 13-14. Where do they lead?
2. Why do you think one is narrow and the other wide?
3. Based on these verses, what are the marks of a true Christ follower?

Conviction:

I will follow Jesus and obey His commands.

Application:

Does your life reflect God’s transformative work? If not, what do you think you should do?

Pray Together:

Dear Jesus, You are the gate by which we choose to enter. Thank You for what You have done on the cross for us. As we choose to follow and obey You, help us to become Your true follower by the power of the Holy Spirit. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

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