

Trail Notes

Life of the Trail



Sermon Series

- Choose Your Trail
- Pack Light
Pack Right
- Stay On The Trail
- The View from The
Summit

Key Scripture

Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many.

14 For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few. 15 “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. 16 You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? 17 So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. 18 A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

The Fruit of the Spirit

Love, Joy, Peace,
Patience, Kindness, Goodness,
Faithfulness, Gentleness
&
Self-Control.

Notes:

Scratching The Surface

We often think of following Jesus as a matter of believing the right things or making the right choices. But there is more to it than simply knowing what is right. Over time, our faith begins to show itself in the way we treat others, respond to difficult situations, handle our desires, and make everyday decisions. The Christian life is not simply about where we are going; it is also about who we are becoming along the way.

Deeper Still

Section headings are not part of the original biblical text. They were added by later editors.

Different Bibles sometimes place headings in different places, which can influence how we see the relationship between passages.

For example, the ESV connects Matthew 7:12 & 13 with the “*Golden Rule*,” while the NIV begins “*The Narrow and Wide Gates*” at verse 13.

This reminds us to look beyond the headings and ask:

How did Matthew intend these verses to fit together?

Do you read “see” the text differently with the different section headings?

How might it read if there were no section headings?

Doing

With what you now know about the Fruits of the Spirit, take time to reflect:

Am I bearing good fruits?

Love, Joy, Peace,
Patience, Kindness, Goodness,
Faithfulness, Gentleness
and
Self-Control.
If not...why not?

Praying

Lord Jesus, help me to walk the narrow way and to follow You faithfully. Grow in me the fruit of Your Spirit—*love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control*. Show me where my life is not bearing good fruit, and help me surrender those areas to You. May the way I live reflect Your presence in me.

Amen!!