

# The Sermon on the Mount: Eternal Options

Matthew 7:13-14

📖 Proverbs 3:5–6 (NIV) “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; <sup>6</sup> in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.”

## All should choose the road that goes to heaven.

📖 Matthew 7:13a (NIV) “Enter through the narrow gate.”

📖 2 Peter 3:9b (NLT) “...He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent.”

## Most won't choose the road that goes to heaven.

📖 Matthew 7:13b (NIV) “For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it.”

📖 Matthew 7:13b (ESV) “For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many.”

📖 Matthew 16:26 (LB) “What profit is there if you gain the whole world—and lose eternal life? What can be compared with the value of eternal life?”

## Few will choose the road that goes to heaven.

📖 Matthew 7:14 (NIV) “But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.”

📖 Matthew 7:14 (ESV) “For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.”

📖 2 Timothy 3:12 (NLT) “Yes, and everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.”

📖 Matthew 5:10–12 (NIV) “Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>11</sup> “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

📖 John 10:7–15 (NIV) “Therefore Jesus said again, “I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup> All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup> I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. <sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. <sup>11</sup> “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup> The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. <sup>13</sup> The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. <sup>14</sup> “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— <sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep.”

📖 John 14:6 (NIV) Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

**Digging Deeper**—Describe a time when you were lost. Have you ever been given bad directions? What is the farthest you've gone in the wrong direction? When is it wise to follow the crowd? What is the best advice that you've ever been given? If you were to insert Christ into all of the previous questions, how would you respond to them?