

THE WISE MAN

Matthew 7:15-29

Key Verse: 7:24

1. Read verse 15. What is Jesus' warning? What is the characteristic of a false prophet? Read verse 16-20. How can false prophets be recognized? What does this mean? What is the only thing to do with a bad tree?

2. Read verses 21-23. What do false disciples have in common with real disciples? What is the difference? How is it that those who know the Bible well and engage in many good activities can fail to enter the kingdom? What does it mean to know Jesus and be known by him?

3. Read verses 24-27. Regarding building a house, what is the main difference between the wise man and the foolish man? What do they have in common?

4. How does this parable apply to building a life? How is this parable related to the good and bad trees? To knowing Jesus and being known by him?

5. Read verses 28-29. What was the response of the crowds to Jesus' teaching? (Notice other places in this gospel where a similar phrase is used: 7:28; 11:1; 13:54; 19:1; 26:1)