

**Cultivating
a Christian Character**

***Studies in
The Sermon on the Mount
Matthew chapters 5-7***

***One Choice -
with only two options
Matthew 7.13-14***

Choices, choices, choices!

- but only two options with Jesus

1. Two Gates

- ***The narrow gate is Jesus*** ***John 10.7,9***
there is only one way of salvation
Acts 4.12; John 14.6
- ***The wide gate is everything else***
whatever leads people to live their lives
as they do –
their own preferences and ideas

2. Two Roads

➤ *The narrow one*

Jesus defines its boundaries

how he wants us to live

5.21-22,27-28,38-39,43-45

he sets limits on our beliefs and behaviour

he leads us to life in all its fullness John 10.10

➤ *The broad one*

room for everything – so anything goes

including confusion and conflict

every alternative to God

3. Two Destinations

- ***Life from the realms of eternity***
a life of knowing God now – and forever
John 17.3
through the gift of his Spirit Eph 1.13-14
available to all, from Jesus John 6.37
- ***Destruction***
Satan's ultimate goal for humanity John 10.10

4. Two Groups of People

- *The many*
heading for destruction John 3.17-18,36
- *The few*
experiencing salvation through Jesus
a crowd beyond counting Rev 7.9-10

The Challenge to Choose

- *Enter through the narrow gate*
choose life Dt 30.15
choose Christ Josh 24.15