



CELL GROUP MATERIAL

5 JULY 2026

5 JULY SERMON

The Call to Commit

PASTOR BOBBY MATHEW

Based on Matthew 7:13-27

Icebreaker Question: Share about a time when you had to make a difficult choice between what was easy/popular and what you knew was right. What helped you make that decision?

Sermon Recap

This sermon challenged us to move beyond superficial Christianity to genuine commitment. Pastor used Jesus' conclusion to the Sermon on the Mount to highlight four key areas:

1. The choice between two gates (narrow vs. broad)
 2. The fruit that reveals our true commitment
 3. The danger of religious activity without genuine relationship
 4. The importance of not just hearing, but obeying God's Word
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Discussion Questions

Part 1: The Narrow Gate

Read Matthew 7:13-14 together

1. **What does the "narrow gate" represent in practical terms for your daily life?**
What specific things might you need to "leave behind" to enter through it?
2. **Pastor mentioned that the narrow gate requires us to let go of things that are precious to us - hurts, bitterness, desires for things God doesn't approve of.**
Which of these is hardest for you personally? Why?
3. **How does our culture make the "broad way" seem more attractive?** What are some specific examples you've encountered this week?

Part 2: Fruit That Reveals Commitment

Read Matthew 7:16-20 together

4. **The sermon distinguished between "struggling believers" and "pretending believers."** How would you explain the difference? Why is this distinction important?

5. **Pastor mentioned several fruits of genuine commitment: repentance, humility, holiness, forgiveness, faithfulness, hunger for God, obedience, and sincere worship.**
 - Which of these fruits do you see growing in your life?
 - Which ones need more attention?
6. **How do you respond when God corrects you through His Word, through preaching, or through other believers?** Share an example if you're comfortable.

Part 3: Beyond Religious Performance

Read Matthew 7:21-23 together

7. **These are some of the most sobering words Jesus ever spoke.** What makes the difference between someone who does ministry activities but doesn't know Jesus, and someone who truly belongs to Him?
8. **The sermon mentioned Ananias and Sapphira, who wanted to be admired rather than truly serve.** How can we examine our own motives for serving, giving, or participating in church activities?
9. **Pastor shared statistics about declining Christianity in Singapore, suggesting that poor testimony from Christians affects how others view faith.**
 - How does this challenge you personally?
 - What can we do as a group to be better witnesses?

Part 4: Hearing vs. Doing

Read Matthew 7:24-27 together

10. **"Hearing is not enough."** What's one truth from God's Word that you've heard repeatedly but haven't fully obeyed? What's holding you back?
 11. **The wise builder and foolish builder both heard Jesus' words and both faced storms.** What does this teach us about the purpose of obedience? (Hint: It's not to avoid difficulties)
 12. **Pastor asked, "Who owns your life?"** How would you honestly answer that question today? What evidence would support your answer?
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Key Takeaways

As a group, identify which of these truths resonates most with you:

- ✓ Entering the narrow gate requires letting go of things we hold dear
 - ✓ Real fruit in our lives reveals the reality of our commitment
 - ✓ Religious activity without genuine relationship with Jesus is dangerous
 - ✓ Hearing God's Word without obeying it is building on sand
 - ✓ True commitment means surrendering ownership of our lives to Jesus
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Practical Applications

Individual Commitments

Choose ONE specific area to work on this week:

- ☐ **The Narrow Gate:** Identify one thing God is asking you to surrender (a habit, relationship, attitude, possession) and take a concrete step to let it go.
- ☐ **Fruit Inspection:** Ask a trusted Christian friend to honestly tell you what "fruit" they see in your life. Listen without defending yourself.
- ☐ **Motive Check:** Before serving, giving, or participating in ministry this week, pause and ask: "Am I doing this for God's glory or my own?"
- ☐ **Obedience Over Hearing:** Pick one biblical truth you know but haven't obeyed. Write down 3 specific actions you'll take to obey it this week.
- ☐ **Ownership Declaration:** Spend 30 minutes in prayer surrendering a specific area of your life to Jesus' lordship (finances, career, relationships, time, etc.).

Group Commitment

Accountability Partners: Pair up and share your specific commitment with your partner. Exchange contact information and commit to checking in with each other mid-week.

Closing Activity

Personal Reflection & Response

Take 3-5 minutes of silence for each person to answer these questions privately:

1. **What is God specifically saying to me through this sermon?**

2. **On a scale of 1-10, how committed am I really to following Jesus? (Be honest—God already knows)**
3. **What one thing will I do differently starting tomorrow?**

Prayer Time

- Invite anyone who wants to make a fresh commitment to Jesus to share briefly
 - Pray for each person by name, asking God to:
 - Give courage to walk the narrow way
 - Produce genuine fruit in each life
 - Expose and remove any pretense or hypocrisy
 - Transform hearers into doers of the Word
 - Help each person fully surrender ownership of their life to Jesus
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For Further Study

This week, read through the entire Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) and note:

- Commands you need to obey
- Attitudes you need to develop
- Behaviours you need to change

Recommended Resources:

- Book: "The Cost of Discipleship" by Dietrich Bonhoeffer
 - Book: "Mere Christianity" by C.S. Lewis (especially the chapter on counting the cost)
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Memory Verse for the Week:

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven." - Matthew 7:21