

Matthew 7 – Study Guide #7

We must meditate on what we read in the Gospels. This even the most unlearned person can do, and will do, if he has a will to do it.

John Henry Newman

Before answering these questions or reading a commentary on the passage, read the chapter one or two times to gain an overview of what it says. I personally ask myself, "Who said what to whom and why and what did it mean to them, before I ask myself, how can I apply this passage personally?"

1. How would you describe the basic mind-set or attitude is Jesus teaching in this chapter?
2. Which teachings in this chapter do you find hardest to understand?
3. If you were asked, to summarize the most important "marks of Christian maturity" as taught in this chapter, which ones would you mention first?
4. What are the most important things this chapter communicates about God's character?
5. If we fully obey verses 1-2, do you think it's a guarantee that we won't be unfairly criticized by others? If not, then what does this verse really mean?
6. Verses 7-8 teach us to pray with confidence. What is the true basis of that confidence?
7. How would you restate the "Golden Rule" (verse 12) in your own words?
8. Think about verses 13-14. What is "narrow" about the path in life that you have chosen?
9. Compare what verses 13-14 imply about our security in life with what verses 24-27 teach about the same subject. How do these passages complement each other?
10. Review verses 15-20. Has there been a time when you have followed these guidelines and have recognized false Christian teaching?
11. Do you think verses 21-23 were meant to scare us, to comfort us, or something else entirely?
12. In verses 24-27, what does Jesus mean by the "rock"?
13. What is it that made the crowds so amazed or astonished by the teachings of Jesus? (28-29.)
14. Look at the amazement or astonishment mentioned in verses 28-29. What surprises you about the teaching of Jesus?

Question ideas are from The Complete Bible Study Guide published by Multnomah Publishers and LifeGuide Bible Studies published by Inter-varsity Press