

# Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> November 2024

## Matthew 7: 21-23

### True and False Disciples

*<sup>21</sup> “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. <sup>22</sup> Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’ <sup>23</sup> Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’*

1. Take a moment to consider all the things that can be described as fake. Here’s two for starters: news and scams...

2. There have been times in church history when high profile leaders have been found wanting. Without naming names, how does it make you feel when you hear of such things? What do you think it says to a watching world?
3. On Sunday it was said that the words of Jesus, “I never knew you” (Matthew 7:21) was not for the non-religious but the religious – those who profess faith. How do you respond to this?
4. You might want to read Matthew 16: 13-20. What do you think caused Peter to have come to the decision? Remember no one was better qualified to make this assessment than the 12 disciples, they knew the public and private Jesus.
5. While we, on the one hand, claim that ‘good works’ won’t save us, the Bible says that, ‘faith without works is dead’ (James 2: 14-26). How do we – The Salvation Amy, known for our good works – bring these two statements together?

6. How do we create a fellowship that loves God and loves others?
  
7. Read 1 Corinthians 8: 1-3. Perhaps you, like me, have heard one Christian say to another, when disagreeing, words like, 'I'm a Bible believing Christian', thereby implying the other person isn't, to justify their point of view. Is loving God easier than loving others?
  
8. We sang on Sunday, 'Knowing You, Jesus' based on Philippians 3. Paul said that all his achievements as a Pharisee and an Apostle, that were many (you might want to take a moment to list them), were worthless compared to knowing Christ. Is that possible in our world today when so much is based on what we achieve?
  
9. You might want to take a moment during the week, when alone, to consider, 'do I know *about* Jesus or do I *know* him?' What must I do to know him better?

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**

**You call Me the Way**

*but you don't follow Me*

**You call Me the Light**

*but you don't see Me*

**You call Me the Teacher**

*but you don't listen to Me*

**You call Me the Lord**

*but you don't serve Me*

**You call Me the Truth**

*but you don't believe in Me*

**Don't be surprised if one day  
I don't know you**

Matthew 7:21