

MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ENTER THROUGH THE NARROW DOOR

Luke 13:22-35

Key Verse: 13:24

“Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to.”

1. What was Jesus doing on the way to Jerusalem (22; 9:51)? What did someone ask him (23)? Read verse 24. Why does Jesus describe entrance to the kingdom of God as a “narrow door” (Mt 7:13-14)? How can we “Make every effort” (9:23; 11:28)?
2. On whom is the door closed, and why does the owner not open it at their pleading (25)? What does the repetition of “I don’t know you” tell us (25,27)? What kind of relationship with Jesus is essential to enter the kingdom of God (26)?
3. Who is included in the kingdom of God, who is thrown out, and why (28)? What glorious vision did Jesus foresee (29)? What does it mean that those who are last will be first and the first, last (30)?
4. What warning did some Pharisees give Jesus (31)? What was Jesus’ goal and why was he certain he would reach it (32-33a)? How is this related to the narrow door (Heb 10:19-20)? What significance did Jesus see in ending his life in Jerusalem (33b)?
5. How does Jesus’ longing reflect God’s heart and purpose for his people (34a; Isa 2:3)? How did they respond (34b)? What would be the consequence (35a)? What was Jesus’ hope (35b)?