

## Sermon Discussion Questions | May 22, 2016 Mathew 7:21-27 | “Looking Unto Jesus, Not Unto Doctrine”

1. What is the context of our text? What has Jesus been discussing in *Matthew 5-7*?
2. What is the significance and value of “healthy spiritual introspection”? [see *II Cor. 13:5*]
3. In the illustration of the importance of having a valid visa and passport to enter a foreign country, how is Jesus showing us his great love in *Matthew 7:21-27*?
4. What is the significance and value of “right doctrine”? What emphasis does the Bible place on having it? What does it mean that God’s truth is: supernatural, propositional, absolute, and authoritative? [see *I Timothy 1:10; 3:15; 6:3; II Thess. 2:15; Titus 1:9*]
5. What is the significance and value of “right practice”? What does it mean to *practice lawlessness* in *Matt. 7:23*? What is absent from the person who builds their house on the *sand*, and what is present with the person who builds their house on the *rock*?
6. In the illustration of “Bobby’s” rebellion sitting in his front yard with his friends, what is the difference between active (overt) rebellion, and passive (covert) rebellion? In your own walk with Christ, which of these two forms of rebellion are more descriptive of you?
6. Define and discuss the four words below which are four aspects of “knowing Christ.”
  - (a) knowledge (necessary but insufficient – see *James 2:19* and *II Tim. 3:7*)
  - (b) assent
  - (c) trust (see *Romans 10:9*)
  - (d) obedience
7. Using these four words as “filters,” consider the following illustrations/applications. How does “believing the gospel” address each of the following?
  - (a) your shame for some haunting failure in your life (*I Corinthians 15:9-10*)
  - (b) your FEAR of the future or of God’s provision for you (*Matt. 6:25-34*)
  - (c) your anxiety about the future of Central Presbyterian Church
  - (d) your desire to control the future and your anger when you realize you can’t

8. Of the four components of “knowing Christ,” which is most problematic for you, and why?

9. How is the gospel of Christ’s “finished work” the only *rock* upon which we can build as we pursue Christ’s “unfinished work” in our lives, individually and as a church? (see *Psalm 61:1-4*)