

WARM UP QUESTION

Who are some of your favorite Christian authors or preachers that you like to read/listen to?

Read <u>Matthew 7:15</u>. What does the word "beware" mean to you? Define or describe what exactly a false prophet is. Why do we need to beware of them? How discerning do you think you are when it comes to recognizing false teachers or false teaching?

Read <u>Matthew 7:16-20</u>. What test does Jesus give His disciples for spotting false teachers? What, practically, does good fruit and bad fruit look like? What happens to the "neutral" tree described in verse 19?

Read Matthew 7:21-23. How does verse 21 describe fruit? How does verse 22 show us that even fruit is sometimes deceiving? What determines if Jesus knows someone or not (verse 23)? As you read these verses within the context of everything we've read and studied thus far in the Sermon on the Mount, how do these verses still ultimately boil down to the condition of our hearts?

Read <u>John 8:31-32 and 14:6</u>. How does Jesus describe truth? What does knowing truth do in our lives? It has been said that federal agents who are trained to recognize counterfeit money are trained first to study the real thing. How does that apply to spotting counterfeit teaching and teachers? Why is it better to study truth rather than counterfeits?

How are each of these verses an encouragement for us to continue to examine our own hearts and lives? How do we balance that with being aware of false prophets and teaching? Spend time as a group praying <u>Philippians 3:8-11</u> for each other. Pray that you would truly know Christ; that knowing Him would continue to saturate your hearts and minds and change you from the inside-out.

RESPOND

What have you learned about God from His Word? How is He asking you to apply it to your life? When will you apply it?

Encourage group members to read Daily Bible Reading on the church app or have it delivered to their inbox daily. Subscribe at <u>tpcc.org/dbr</u>. Use your group chat to check in on thoughts about these throughout the week!