

Sunday, 19th April 2026

“The Narrow Path That Leads to Life: No Perfume on a Corpse”

Text: Matthew 7:13–14;
Luke 13:23–24

My Dearest Christian Family,
Last Sunday we reflected on the
indescribable beauty of our beloved Lord
Jesus and the hideousness of sin.

Our beloved Lord Jesus Christ speaks
with sobering clarity:

“Enter by the narrow gate. For wide is
the gate and broad is the way that leads
to destruction... But small is the gate and

narrow the way that leads to life, and only a few find it.”
(Matthew 7:13–14)

This is not a suggestion—it is a command.

There are only two roads, two destinies, two kinds of people:

- The many on the broad road
- The few on the narrow path

And the tragedy of our generation—even within the visible church—is this: many believe they are on the narrow path while comfortably walking on the broad road.

The Danger of the Broad Road: A Slow Spiritual Death

The broad road is deceptive. It does not always appear evil. It is often religious, comfortable, and socially acceptable.

It is like a frog placed in slowly heating water—unaware that it is being boiled alive.

So too, many are being lulled into spiritual death:

- Sin is tolerated
- Conviction is softened
- Holiness is ignored

“There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.”
(Proverbs 14:12)

The danger is not always open rebellion—it is gradual compromise.

John Owen warned:

“Be killing sin, or sin will be killing you.”
Sin is never passive—it is actively destroying our soul.

And if left unchecked, it leads not only to spiritual deadness—but to the second death:

“Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death.” (Revelation 20:14)

Perfume on a Corpse: The Tragedy of False Repentance

Many in the church today are not dealing with sin—they are masking it.

They are, as it were, spraying perfume on a corpse.

- Religious activity replaces repentance
- Worship songs replace brokenness
- Positive messages replace conviction

But this is clear:

Perfume cannot give life to the dead, it can never stop the stench.

“Woe to you... For you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within are full of dead people’s bones.” (Matthew 23:27)

This is the condition of many:

- Outwardly clean
- Inwardly corrupt

John Calvin wrote:

“We must be stripped of all self-righteousness... until we feel that we are nothing.”

Yet today, many are taught:

- Blessing without brokenness
- Victory without surrender
- Comfort without repentance

This is not the gospel—it is deception.

True Repentance: The Doorway to Life

Our beloved Lord says in Luke 13:24:

“Make every effort to enter through the narrow door.”

This effort is not works-based salvation—it is the striving of a repentant heart.

True repentance is not optional—it is essential.

“Unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.” (Luke 13:3)

But this is clear:

Repentance is not condemnation—it is mercy.

It is our beloved Triune God saying: “Lay down what is killing you, and receive what gives you life.”

Thomas Watson defined repentance: “Repentance is a grace of God’s Spirit whereby a sinner is inwardly humbled and visibly reformed.”

True repentance includes:

- Seeing sin as hideous
- Grieving over it
- Confessing it honestly
- Turning from it completely

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us... and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”
(1 John 1:9)

Evidence of True Salvation: The Fruit of Transformation

My beloved Christian Family,
we must ask:
How do we know we are truly God’s children?

Not by words. Not by feelings.
But by fruit.

“By their fruits you will recognize them.”
(Matthew 7:16)

True faith produces transformation.

Jonathan Edwards wrote:

“Grace is not a principle that lies dormant, but it brings forth fruit in a changed life.”

If there is no transformation, there is no true conversion.

When we walk the narrow path:

- Sin becomes hateful
- Christ becomes precious
- Holiness becomes desirable

From Spiritual Leprosy to Beauty in Christ

Apart from Christ, we are not merely sick—we are spiritually diseased.

Like lepers:

- Unclean
- Defiled
- Separated

“The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint.” (Isaiah 1:5)

But here is the glory of the gospel:
When we walk with Christ daily—
step by step, moment by moment—
He transforms us.

“And we all... are being transformed into
the same image from one degree of
glory to another.”
(2 Corinthians 3:18)

From:

- Hideous sinner to Beautiful child of God
- Spiritual corpse to a Living soul
- Darkness into Light

A.W. Pink said:

“Salvation is not only a deliverance from the wrath to come, but a present transformation of the soul.”

Walking the Narrow Path Daily

The narrow path is not easy.

It requires:

- Daily surrender
- Daily repentance
- Daily obedience

“If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me.” (Luke 9:23)

This path is:

- Unpopular
- Costly
- Often lonely

But it leads to life.

Do Not Treat Sin Lightly

My beloved Family, once again we must not trivialize sin.

Do not:

- Excuse it
- Hide it
- Normalize it

And above all:

Do not perfume our spiritual corpse.

Bring your sin into the light.

“If we walk in the light... the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.”

(1 John 1:7)

Conclusion:

Choose the Narrow Path

Dearest Family,

Let us this Sunday hear

the voice of our beloved Christ:

“Enter through the narrow gate.”

Not tomorrow. Not later.

But Now.

The broad road is crowded—but it ends in destruction.

The narrow path is difficult—but it leads to life.

Charles Spurgeon:

“You and your sins must separate, or you and your God will never come together.”

Let us not cover our wounds—bring them to Christ.

Let us not perfume our sin—repent of it.

Let us not settle for feeling better—be made new.

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.” (2 Corinthians 5:17)

O beloved Lord Jesus, search our hearts and expose every hidden sin.

Break us, humble us, and lead us to true repentance.

Keep us from the deception of the broad road.

Grant us grace to walk the narrow path—step by step with our beloved Savior.

Transform us, O our beloved Triune God, from spiritual death to eternal life, for Your glory and for our joy.
In our beloved Jesus' name,

Amen, Amen, Amen.

Much love,
Francis