

N. Wilm. Bockrath Fellowship Group

May 23, 2003

Luke 13:22-30 (NIV) – *The Parable of the Narrow Door*

²²Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. ²³Someone asked him, "Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?"

He said to them, 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. ²⁵Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, 'Sir, open the door for us.'

"But he will answer, 'I don't know you or where you come from.'

²⁶"Then you will say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.'

²⁷"But he will reply, 'I don't know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!'

²⁸"There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. ²⁹People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. ³⁰Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last."

Questions for Discussion:

1. As usual, Jesus is asked a question and answers in His own way. What do you find interesting about the question (v. 23)? The answer? (vv. 24-25)
2. This parable is about a door. What is the door?
3. What do we learn about the door in this parable (vv. 24-25)?
4. Jesus is harsh on those who he might even be familiar with but who do not have saving faith (vv. 26-27). If we are believers, we need not fear the judgment Jesus speaks of. When, though, do our Christian walks resemble the behavior condemned in vv. 26-27?
5. The ordering of God's kingdom is depicted in vv. 28-30. What encouragement can you find in these sobering words?