

## **Sovereign Grace Church**

### ***"I Never Knew You" outline***

November 11, 2018

#### **Matthew 7: 21-23**

**Jesus is concluding his famous Sermon on the Mount. He has been challenging the people to repent of seeking to control their own lives and to cast in their lot with Him in His Father's Kingdom. He has been challenging them to forgo the use of worldly tools of anger, contempt, lust, envy, deception, force and hatred in their quest to bring righteousness to earth. These are the basic tools of a fallen world and are completely ineffective in serving the purposes of genuine righteousness. Rather, He calls his disciples to put on his own character of love, mercy, grace, kindness and love as they pursue godliness in an ungodly world. Such attributes put Jesus on the cross and He predicted persecution for those who faithfully follow Him in His kingdom. But His resurrection demonstrated that ultimately hatred is powerless against love. The soft answer really does turn away wrath!**

**Today Jesus calls us to consider the motives for why we do good things. In effect He teaches us that good things...although good....are not good enough! Professions of faith and wondrous works done in the Spirit's power are very good....but do not give a certain indication of the inner power of love which must lie behind them.**

#### **1. Professions of Faith Rom. 10: 9-10**

- **Professions of Faith are Good Matt. 16: 13-15**
  
- **Our Practice**

#### **2. Works of the Spirit Jn 14: 12**

- **Works of the Spirit are Good  
I Cor. 14: 39-40; Lk 11: 20**

### **3. But are Not Enough!**

- **Professions are not enough v. 21**  
**Mk 7:7**
  
- **Prophecies, Demon-deliverance and Miracles are not enough v.22**  
**Jn 11: 49-51; Matt 10: 7-8**
  
- **Judgment: “I Never Knew You!” v. 23**

### **Closing Note on Toxicity**

#### **Questions for Reflection/Conversation**

- 1. Why are professions of faith not enough to guarantee entry into Christ's Kingdom? Have you ever discerned what you thought was a false profession of faith? How is this related to the sin of hypocrisy? Can a Christian put too much value on having made a profession of faith or having been baptized? What is the place of professions of faith in the Christian life? Have you ever made a profession of faith? Can your life be considered a profession of faith in Christ?**
- 2. Do you believe that it is possible to do a Spiritually empowered work and not be possessed by the Holy Spirit? Why might you think not? Why might you think so? Why might God choose to use an ungodly person to accomplish a godly work? Are there cases in Scripture where God used ungodly nations to judge more godly nations? How might this relate to the questions at hand?**
- 3. How do you understand the relationship between motive and act? How do you understand the relationship between love and law? How can we rely strictly on Christ's tools of love, grace, mercy, forgiveness, freedom etc. and believe that we can prevail in this sick perverted world? How can we resist evil with the tools Christ provides? Is it possible to go to war against a nation that you love? How must such a war be waged?**