

A Worship Study Guide for Individuals, Groups and Families for the week of May 22, 2022

## I Never Knew You

This week, Pastor Steve Shelby preached from Matthew 7:21-23

<sup>21</sup> "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. <sup>22</sup> On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' <sup>23</sup> And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.""

- How do you know you are a Christian?
- On the surface, why might we admire the people described in today's passage?
- We normally think sharing God's message and ministry with enthusiasm is a really good thing. Why does Jesus condemn these people?
- What does Jesus mean by "the one who does the will of my Father in heaven" (21)? Why do we often confuse religious activity with doing our Father's will? What is the essential difference?
- For Jesus, why would the ministry He describes actually be "lawless"? (23)
- What does it mean to be "known" by Jesus? (23)
- Later in the New Testament, the apostle Paul makes a connection between our words and our heart (<u>Romans 10:-9-10</u>), and how a true profession of faith depends upon the Holy Spirit (<u>I Corinthians 12:3</u>). Why must true faith involve both the heart and the Spirit?
- The One teaching here has a perfect unity of heart, word, and deed in submission to God. His ministry was not only spectacular and true, He faithfully did the will of His Father in heaven. Repent, thank God, and pray together in light of this week's passage.