

## **Discussion Questions - 1/23/22**

### Authentic or Almost Christian? (Matthew 7:15-23)

Here are three basic questions you can always ask in any bible study:

- What does this text teach us about God?
- What does this text teach us about ourselves?
- If this text is true, what should we do to obey this teaching? This answer ought to be specific, in that it can be clearly measured.

Here are some specific questions about this text:

- What are positive examples of pastoral care and shepherding you've had in your life? What did these examples teach you about following and knowing Jesus? Read Ezekiel 34:1-6. What are the characteristics of false shepherds based on the passage? What are the challenges in identifying and dealing with false shepherds in our culture?
- Jesus emphasizes the importance of character over charisma for a true shepherd. Why does he do that? Why are we drawn to the externals of a leader vs. the internal character? How can we be discerning as individuals and the church?
- How would you explain the doctrine of hell to a neighbor or friend that believes it isn't right that it exists?
- What are ways this year you hope to be better living out "the will of the Father" (v. 21)? How can the group pray for you to grow in this area? What do you need to be held accountable for?