

## The Rich Ruler

Luke 18:15-34

Theme: The Way to eternal life is by following Jesus with child-like dependence, breaking ties to the idols of this world and trusting God to save us.

Religion and Human self-improvement asks God “what can I do?”

Saving Faith does not ask but receives what God has done through Christ.

**1) Another contrast (vv.15-19)**

- A) Childlike \_\_\_\_\_
- B) Wealthy \_\_\_\_\_-sufficiency

**2) The demand of the Law (vv.20-22)**

- A) A Simple \_\_\_\_\_
- B) An \_\_\_\_\_ exposed

**3) The God of the Impossible (vv.24-26)**

- A) A needle and a \_\_\_\_\_
- B) The \_\_\_\_\_ of human self-improvement
- C) Religion is about “what can I do?” Christianity is about what God has already done.

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## Small Group Questions

### REFLECT

1. People were bringing infants to Jesus not older children. Then Jesus says we are to receive the kingdom like these infants. What did He mean? Why do you think the disciples were preventing people from bringing their infants to Jesus for a blessing?
2. What does the statement of the rich ruler in v.21 reveal about his estimation of his own self-righteousness? Is it accurate? How does it contrast with the story of infants being brought to Jesus?
3. Read Exodus 20:3. In v.22, what is the “one thing” this ruler still lacked?
4. How does Jesus’ challenge to the ruler in v.22 point to the whole law? See Luke 10:27. According to Luke 10 how much of the law was the ruler breaking?
5. What are the implications of v.25 for the rich? Are there exceptions? Consider Lk. 19:1-10. Acts 16:14-15; Acts 4:36-37
6. Judging by the disciple’s response in v.26, they were startled by how extreme Jesus’ statement was about the rich entering heaven. What was Jesus point in making such an extreme statement? See v.27
7. Why do you think Peter brought up what he did in v.28?
8. Is v.30 encouraging us to give so we can get?
9. Why do you think Jesus predicts his suffering and death right after the story of the contrast between infants and the rich man?

### RESPOND

Consider Barnabas in Acts 4:36-37. How did his actions reveal his heart attitude toward his wealth? Do you have things you need to lay at the feet of Jesus and allow Him to use as He sees fit?

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