



Discussion Questions  
Sermon Series: Jesus said what?....  
About Possessions  
Sunday 1 September 2024

### Jesus Said What?... About Possessions – 1 Sept 2024 – Small Group Notes

As we start a new series called, 'Jesus Said What', exploring confusing or challenging statements of Jesus, what are some things that you think could be included in this series?

#### Read Mark 10:17-20

#### Read Exodus 20:2-17

What are the commandments that Jesus skips?

A Jewish man at this time would have noticed that commandments were missing. What might this rich man make of this?

Why, do you think, the man responds the way that he does?

#### Read Mark 10:21-22

What do you find helpful or challenging about this passage?

#### Read John 3:3-6, 16-17

Why does Jesus talk about eternal life so differently when speaking to the rich man as compared to speaking to Nicodemus?

Why would Jesus bring such a hard challenge to the rich man?

**Quote-** James Thurber- All men should strive to learn before they die what they are running from, and to, and why.

#### Read Mark 10:23-25

What does it mean for it to be so difficult for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God?

What does this difficulty look like? How can we help people with it?

Having resources means we can be self-reliant. How is that dangerous for us spiritually? How can we work against that in our own heart?

On Sunday we looked at how we treat time and how it is similar to how this man treated money.

What parallels can you see between how people treat time and money in a western affluent context? Would you agree that 'time is money'?

How can seeing yourself as simply a cog in a money-making machine be bad for your soul? What can you do to resist this attitude toward life?

**Quote-** Friedrich Nietzsche – “People never feel more alive than when they are busy.”

**Quote-** Henri Nouwen- “In our production-oriented society, being busy, having an occupation, has become one of the main ways, if not the main way, of identifying ourselves.”

How can we develop times of sabbath where we remember that everything comes from God and get a proper perspective on our place in the world? Why is it important to have times when we are un-productive?

**Quote-** T.S. Eliot in The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock, “I have measured out my life with coffee spoons.”

**Read Mark 10:26-27**

Why is it important that what Jesus describes is only possible with God's help? Why is it critical that we throw ourselves on God?

**To be in the middle of whatever God is doing is better than being anywhere else.**

How might the rich man's life have been different if he chose to follow Jesus? How is following however God calls us the only thing that truly makes sense?

How might being all-in with God look like? What dramatic examples can you think of? What everyday, mundane, but God-honouring examples can you think of?

**We must... resolve to live for Christ... and give money/ time/ ego/ ability/ ambition its proper place.**

Prayerfully give all you have back to God. Say, 'God, this is all yours'. If you are too scared to pray that say, 'God, help me, change my heart!'.

**Read Mark 10:28-31**

Why were the disciples distressed, and what do you find encouraging from what Jesus said to them here?