

COMING INTO THE KINGDOM

MATTHEW 19:13-26

The greatest enemy to human souls is the self-righteous spirit which makes men look to themselves for salvation.

-Charles Spurgeon

I. Hope for the Helpless

II. A Warning for the Wealthy

Small Group Study Questions

Into the Bible:

1. The rich young ruler asks Jesus, "What good thing must I do?" Initially, Jesus gives him a list of commandments to obey. Significantly these are all about loving your neighbor. But when Jesus tells him to sell all he has, he shifts the emphasis to the 1st and 2nd of the Ten Commandments. What is really keeping the rich young ruler from entry into the Kingdom? (Exodus 20:3-6, Matthew 6:19-24)

2. The disciples are somewhat dismayed by the order Jesus gives the ruler. To them, he had checked all the right boxes. How does Jesus make this a matter of the heart and not a matter of external duty and obedience? Matthew 19:23-26 Why should this point us in the direction of the necessity of grace? (Titus 3:5-7)

Application:

3. The children who approached Jesus to receive a blessing brought nothing in return. They just trusted in the character of this Jesus to be good to them. How does this inform our approach to our Lord? (Romans 5:1-2, Ephesians 3:12)

4. “You contribute nothing to your salvation except the sin that made it necessary”—Jonathan Edwards
And Jesus did bless them. How should this encourage us? (John 6:37)

For Families:

5. Talk with your children about God’s willingness to bless us when we come to Him in faith.