

THE RICH YOUNG RULER

Mark 10:13-31

Has anyone ever told you a hard truth to hear, but one that you needed to hear? Maybe someone told you what other people weren't willing to tell you? How did you react? How do you feel about it now?

MARK 10:17-22

What does the man ask Jesus about? How did Jesus respond?

We rarely see people coming to Jesus and leaving sad, why was Jesus willing to make the man sad?

MARK 10:23-27

Why would riches make it difficult for someone to follow Jesus? Look back at the rich man, why did his great wealth cause him to refuse to follow?

Matthew 6:21 - What do you think Jesus means? (Jesus knows 'idols' ultimately keep us from him. They promise to satisfy our hearts and bring joy and purpose, but always eventually leave us down.)

How would you define the word 'idol'?

APPLICATION

What things are you looking to bring purpose, joy, satisfaction, and meaning to your life besides Jesus? How have they failed?

What do you think Jesus would say to you if you approached him? Would he talk to you like the rich man in this story? What might he ask you to give up?

MARK 10:13-16

Why is Jesus commending the children? How would a person 'receive' Jesus like a child?

In what ways are you holding on to things and not open handedly trusting Jesus?

Discuss with the group and really dig deep. Jesus goes strong after our idols because he knows that they will eventually let us down. He knows that when we put our hope and joy in idols—our reputation, our morality, our money and stuff our girlfriend/boyfriend, our parents, our clothes, our body, our looks, our success in sports or the classroom—we will not experience the fullness of joy that only comes through Him. That's why he asks us to leave them aside and come follow him. What's holding you back?