



# FOLLOWING JESUS

## MESSAGE NOTES & SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE WEEK 4 – POSSESSIONS

<sup>17</sup>As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

<sup>18</sup>“Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone.

<sup>19</sup>You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.’”

<sup>20</sup>“Teacher,” he declared, “all these I have kept since I was a boy.”

<sup>21</sup>Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” he said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

<sup>22</sup>At this the man’s face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

<sup>23</sup>Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!”

<sup>24</sup>The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup>It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

<sup>26</sup>The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, “Who then can be saved?”

<sup>27</sup>Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.”

– Mark 10:17-27 NIV

### **TENSION QUESTION**

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What must I \_\_\_\_\_ eternal life?

## **BIG IDEA**

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What you do with what you have reveals if you \_\_\_\_\_ your  
\_\_\_\_\_ or if your \_\_\_\_\_ you

## **OBSERVATIONS**

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- Our “\_\_\_\_\_” is \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ eternal life
- Commitment to possessions will \_\_\_\_\_ to God
- Reliance upon possessions will \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ upon God
- Possessions can become an \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_ us from  
\_\_\_\_\_ God and \_\_\_\_\_ others

## **DIGGING DEEPER**

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1. Why did the rich young ruler still feel that he was missing something that would allow him to inherit eternal life?
2. Why did Jesus say that only God is good?
3. How did this play into His answer to the rich young ruler’s question about eternal life?
4. How can commitment to possessions get in the way of a person’s devotion to God?
5. What does it mean that the Bible doesn’t endorse a theology of being wealthy or a theology of being poor?
6. Read Matthew 6:24. How might this verse provide helpful context for what Jesus told the rich young ruler?
7. What is the ultimate issue regarding possessions and following Jesus?
8. What can happen if we become reliant upon what we have (or even focus too much upon what we don’t have)?
9. What does it mean that possessions can become an idol?
10. Pastor Joey defined an idol as “anything you cannot freely give up for the sake of following Jesus.” Using that definition, what are some idols that you or other people might have in your life/their lives?
11. Idols are usually viewed as objects to be worshipped. With that in mind, how can possessions becoming an idol impact your worship of God?
12. What are some idols in your life?
13. How can they get in the way of faithfully following Jesus?
14. What do you need to do to remove them from your life?