

THE LIFE OF
JESUS

Message 26
Decisions

Gene Beckner
July 16, 2017

► Outline

Today's Message based on *The Life of Jesus* – Reading 149
(Matthew 19:16-30; Mark 10:17-31; Luke 18:18-30)

"Today I have given you the choice between life and death..."

Deuteronomy 30:19 (NLT)

Everyone has choices.

1. Rich Young Ruler asked _____.
(Mark 10:17; Matthew 19:20b)

How do I ask Jesus?

I ask _____.
(C/R: Philippians 2:12; Romans 10:9-10)

2. Jesus answered _____.
(Mark 10:21,23,25)

Jesus is answering me directly about

(C/R: Philippians 3:3-11)

3. Disciples responded _____.
(Mark 10:26)

When Jesus answers me,

I respond _____.
(C/R: Deuteronomy 28:1-8)

Answers: 1. sincerely 2. directly 3. desperately

Resource Information: Unless otherwise noted, outline and onscreen verses are from HCSB version (Holman Christian Standard Bible) of *The Holy Bible*. Our resource book for this series is *The Life of Jesus, A Simplified Harmony of the Gospels*, which is available in the Bookstore. C/R, if noted, refers to a 'cross reference' of Scripture verse(s). Today's outline and discussion guide are available to mobile device users through the Brookwood Church app available through your favorite app store.

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► Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself to deepen your relationship with Jesus. Then talk through some of these concepts and questions with your spouse or a good friend. Find a Small Group at brookwoodchurch.org/smallgroups.

Conversation Starter

Name one thing you've always wanted but never bought because it costs too much.

Personal Reflection/Group Discussion

Read [Matthew 19:16-30](#); [Mark 10:17-31](#); [Luke 18:18-30](#) (Reading #149 in *The Life of Jesus*).

1. What specific question did the man ask Jesus? Why do you think he asked that question? What were his motives?
2. Why do you think it's so common for people to feel like they have to do good things to get to heaven or to be with God?
3. Why do you think Jesus responded the way He did ([Mt 19:17](#))?
4. The man may have lived a fairly moral life, but, in your own words, what was he still lacking?
5. If salvation is not achieved by giving away possessions, why do you think Jesus gave the young man the instructions in [Matthew 19:21](#)?
6. How did the man respond ([Mt 19:22](#))? What does this reveal about his heart?
7. From what you've seen so far in this story, how had the man already violated the first commandment (see [Ex 20:3](#))?

8. Why is it *hard* for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God? Why were the disciples *astonished* when Jesus said this ([Mk 10:25](#))?
9. Is Jesus saying that it's wrong to have money? Why or why not? What other verses in the Bible support your answer?
10. [Mark 10:27](#) sounds like a really nice Bible verse, but what is Jesus really saying? What is the point of this verse?
11. When have you asked God, either silently or out loud, the question Peter asks in [Matthew 19:27](#) (or one similar to it)?
12. Based on this passage, what is one step you could take to be in greater partnership with God?

Soul Training

Make a list of things you're thankful for, as you go through your week. Sometime later in the week, find quiet space and read through your list with God. Thank Him for His goodness. Ask Him to fill your heart with greater thankfulness and joy for who He is and all He has given you.

Memory Verse

"... *With men it is impossible, but not with God, because all things are possible with God.*" [Mark 10:27 \(HCSB\)](#)

Daily Reading

Day	<i>The Life of Jesus</i> Reading #	or	Bible Reference
July 17	145		Luke 17:20-37
July 18	146		Luke 18:1-14
July 19	147		Matthew 19:1-12 ; Mark 10:1-12
July 20	148		Matthew 19:13-15 ; Mark 10:13-16 ; Luke 18:15-17
July 21	149		Matthew 19:16-30 ; Mark 10:17-31 ; Luke 18:18-30

Prepare for Next Sunday

On Sunday, July 23, we'll consider how your life might be more valuable than you think. Prepare ahead by reading [Luke 19:11-27](#) (Reading #155 in *The Life of Jesus*).



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