

STUDY GUIDE

GET FIT 2.1.15

[setup]

In the sermon this week, Joe mentioned that Jesus talks about money a lot. Read Jesus' interaction with the rich man and his disciples in Matthew 19:16-30.

Jesus promises him treasure in heaven and yet he still walks away. What do you think went through the man's mind.

[digging deeper]

This is a real story and Jesus and the application is not some pie-in-the-sky idea. Jesus is serious - you have to be willing to put anything and everything aside if you really want to follow me! Consider these questions

1. Without making excuses or trying to play this text down, talk to your group about where you personally compared to the rich man. It is easy to chastise him, but would you sell it all - really?
2. Consider the famous section where Jesus says that it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to get into heaven. Jesus isn't being cute - he's being serious. What does this mean for us in rich, western society?
3. Perhaps the most important part of this text is verse 26. Why is this glorious news?
4. Look at verse 27. What do you think is happening here? How are you like Peter?

[live it out]

Accountability is important in Christian community - nothing should be off limits - including finances. The challenge this week is to communicate openly about where you are in your journey of generosity. We challenge your LifeGroup to pray for the grace of generosity for one another and then share with one another your goals - where would you like to grow in your generosity? How might you make plans to bring this topic back up in the future?

Are there people in your group who are good at managing finances? Christian Community is an excellent venue for sharing your expertise. Let's help one another in the area of organization and budget so that we can be financially free to be generous. How might you help one another in the more practical areas of financial fitness