



## 37- Jesus on Riches & Idolatry - Mark 10:17-31 - Discussion Notes

### Introduction

A rich young man who had obtained a fair amount of success inquires of Jesus what “good thing” he needs to do in order to secure a position in His coming kingdom. This question reveals just how little he understood Jesus and the uniqueness of Jesus’ kingdom. Throughout the conversation, the underlying reality that surfaces is that this young man trusts in his wealth. He thinks that his wealth is able to buy him a position within Jesus’ kingdom. In order to lovingly reveal the folly of this man’s assumptions, Jesus tells him that a position in His kingdom would be available to him once he sold all his possessions and gave the proceeds to the poor. In other words, Jesus is asking this man to repent (turn away from) from the wealth of his riches that he trusts in, and trust in the wealth that Jesus offers.

### Observation/Interpretation

- In Mark 10:22, what does the man’s response reveal about the true condition of his heart?
- Why is it difficult for the “rich” or any who trust in their riches (e.g., accomplishments, wisdom, knowledge, power, abilities, etc) to enter into the kingdom of heaven?
- In Mark 10:23-26, why are the disciples shocked that wealth won’t buy a place in Jesus’ kingdom?

### Application

- What do you find or place your security/confidence in (other than the grace of God)?
- How does the promise of God inspire you to be willing to let go of those things?
- What does it look like to put Jesus first in our lives? How can we practically measure that?

### Prayer

Pray that God would help you to identify and repent from idols that own your heart.

Pray that Jesus and his love for you would be the main thing that owns your heart and receives your praise.

#### Community Group Discussion

- Read the passage together out loud.
- Involve your group by asking/answering the study questions, taking the time to share.
- Ask for prayer requests and be sure to pray together.

#### Family Discussion

- Have your child/children read the passage aloud, if old enough otherwise you read it aloud.
- Involve them by asking questions.
- Ask for prayer requests and invite them to pray together as a family.



## A great way to use of these notes is to start/join a Community Group

These notes can be used for personal bible study, yet, another way would be to invite some people together. We call these intentional gatherings, 'Community Groups'.

## What is a Community Group?

Community Groups are small gatherings of believers (non-believers welcomed too!) that meet regularly for accountability, friendship, study of the Bible and prayer. Community Groups are an essential part of the mission of Calvary SLO Church as they are a place where we wrestle with the truths of the Bible and encourage one another toward the life God intends. Each community group is unique and molded by the people who attend it. Most community groups gather weekly and involve food, dialog, prayer, discussion for applying the Bible to practical living, and loving service to one-another. They're meant to be an organic and authentic expression of the church, actively living like the body of Jesus.

## Why should I join/start a Community Group?

God is a Trinitarian God who is revealed as one in three persons: Father, Son and Spirit. We've been made to image God, which means we're designed for community & friendship. We often suffer when we're not in community, due to the brokenness of life, complexity of this world and the temptation to isolate ourselves. We encourage you to gather with a small group of friends, family or roommates on a weekly basis and use these discussion notes to press deeper into God.

## How do I join the Calvary SLO Community Group eco-system?

We're enthusiastic about all forms of biblical community, however there are definite benefits to joining with the Calvary SLO Community Group (CG) eco-system. In short, the benefits are:

- **Training:** We have trainings intent on equipping leaders.
- **Support:** Each CG leader is assigned a coach to provide assistance and ongoing support.
- **Visibility:** CG's are promoted via the bulletin, website & given access to The City (our online social network).

To join all you have to do is sign up for the next upcoming training! Info: pastor James: james@calvaryslo.com.