

Newington '25 – 'A Year in the Gospels' together #34 (July 21-26)

July 21-26/ Day 1: Read Matthew 19:16-30: *Jesus gives a sampling of the Commandments to the rich young man.*

Q. What commandment(s) did Jesus leave out...and why do you suppose He did?

This is the only example of anyone receiving a direct invitation from Jesus to follow Him that was refused.

Q. What significance do you imagine this might have? What is Jesus "really" saying here?

July 21-26/ Day 2: Read Mark 10:17-31:

Q. In Mark's take on this same story, the rich man calls Jesus "Good Teacher". Why might that be?

Q. Then Jesus "sets him straight" ...Why might that be?

July 21-26/ Day 3: Read Luke 18:18-30: *Luke now...when the rich man leaves, Jesus is asked, "Who then can be saved?"*

Q. Why might this be the reaction to a very wealthy man rejecting Jesus' invitation?

Q. Then why might Jesus have responded by saying, "What is impossible with man is possible with God"?

July 21-26/ Day 4: Read Matthew 20:1-16:

Q. What is Jesus doing, jumping into a parable about day laborers right after His telling His followers that a camel will have an easier time jumping through a needle's eye than the rich entering the Kingdom?

Q. In what way(s) is the landowner in this parable demonstrating Grace?

July 21-26/ Day 5: Read Matthew 20:17-19; Mark 10:32-34; Luke 18:31-34: *There is probably some time elapsed between the discussion w/ the rich man, the parable in yesterday's reading & Jesus (w/ His followers) heading to Jerusalem.*

Q. Why might these events have taken place (or have been described) in the order they have been?

Q. How many times has Jesus predicted His death up to this point? What does that possibly indicate?

July 21-26/ Day 6: Study and Meditation – Consider the following questions:

Q. In each account of the rich man, one of Jesus' followers asks what they will receive, since they have given up so much to follow Jesus. How might Jesus' reply have affected them?

Q. Why might they have asked the question/made the statement in the first place? What were their assumptions about God's Kingdom that Jesus was correcting?