

God's Challenge

Pastor Jeff Graham
Sermon Date: 11/5/2023

Sermon in a Sentence: If we want to be part of the Kingdom of God we need to be willing to give up the things holding us back.

Summary: A man came to Jesus asking about eternal life. Jesus' conversation with this man reveals to us that there is something more important than the things we have. What is holding you back from giving everything to God? Will you do it?

Ice Breaker Questions (Choose one or do them all, everyone answers):

- **As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?**
- **What's the weirdest food you've ever eaten?**

Diving In:

- **If you had a chance to ask Jesus one question, what would you want to know?**
- **Read Luke 18: 18-30**
 - **Why does the ruler call Jesus "good"?**
 - **What does it take to be a "good person"? Is this something we can achieve on our own?**
 - **Look up the 10 Commandments in Exodus 20. Which commandments does Jesus skip over? Is there any significance to those commands?** In comparing the missing commandments they all seem to be rules that the ruler had trouble with. His money/position/security were more important to him than being with Jesus in violation of 1 and 2 for sure.
 - **Why did the ruler "go away sad"?**

- **Is there a time that God has asked you to do something uncomfortable? How did you respond?**
- **Jesus says it is impossible without God's help for a rich man to enter the kingdom. What about money makes it difficult to trust God?**
- **Compare the Rich Young Ruler to the Blind man in Luke 18: 35-43 and Zaccheus in Luke 19: 1-10**
 - **What do we know about each of their lifestyles?**
 - **What was each of their attitudes towards Jesus?**
 - **What did they need from or ask of Jesus?**
 - **What did Jesus ask from them? "Nothing" can be correct.**
 - **What was the outcome from each interaction?**

What are the things in your life that make it hard to do what God is asking?

How do we make sure those things don't become idols in our lives?

Going Deeper:

How can we pray for you?