



WEEK 5 | NICK CARNES

All Scripture is in the Christian Standard Bible [CSB], unless noted differently.

Luke 18:18 A ruler asked him, “Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

Luke 18:19 “Why do you call me good?” Jesus asked him. “No one is good except God alone.

Romans 3:3-4 What then? If some were unfaithful, will their unfaithfulness nullify God’s faithfulness? ⁴ Absolutely not! Let God be true, even though everyone is a liar, as it is written: That you may be justified in your words and triumph when you judge.

Romans 3:10 as it is written: There is no one righteous, not even one.

Luke 18:20 You know the commandments: Do not commit adultery; do not murder; do not steal; do not bear false witness; honor your father and mother.”

Luke 18:21 “I have kept all these from my youth,” he said.

Luke 18:22 When Jesus heard this, he told him, “You still lack one thing: Sell all you have and distribute it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

The Real Jesus calls His followers to _____

Luke 18:23 After he heard this, he became extremely sad, because he was very rich.

Luke 18:24-30 Seeing that he became sad, Jesus said, “How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.” ²⁶ Those who heard this asked, “Then who can be saved?” ²⁷ He replied, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.” ²⁸ Then Peter said, “Look, we have left what we had and followed you.” ²⁹ So he said to them, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left a house, wife or brothers or sisters, parents or children because of the kingdom of God, ³⁰ who will not receive many times more at this time, and eternal life in the age to come.”

GO DEEPER

This week, read the Scriptures from Sunday and answer these questions:

1. What did you learn from Sunday's sermon? Did you gain any new insights?
2. What are some things—possessions, relationships, ambitions, comforts, or experiences—that can compete for our hearts and attention? How can we recognize when something has become an obstacle to fully following Jesus?
3. The rich young ruler believed he had kept all the commandments, yet Jesus exposed something deeper in his heart. Why do you think it is possible for someone to appear obedient on the outside while still being spiritually resistant or self-deceived on the inside? Where should we examine our own hearts?
4. Jesus asked the ruler, in essence, *“Do you recognize Me as God?”* How does genuinely recognizing Jesus as Lord change the way we respond to His commands? What is the difference between merely believing facts about Jesus and actually surrendering to Jesus?
5. Jesus calls His followers to radical commitment, but He does not necessarily call every person to give away all of their possessions. What do you think Jesus was really confronting in the rich young ruler? What might “radical commitment” look like in your life right now?
6. The sermon identified several things that can stand between us and fully trusting Jesus: pleasure, personal happiness, greed, past sin, pride, traditions/religion, and family. Which of these can be especially difficult for a follower of Christ to surrender? Why can surrendering these things require genuine faith in Jesus?
7. Luke 18:27 says, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.” The rich young ruler could not save himself through morality, wealth, or religious achievement. What does this passage teach us about salvation, grace, and our dependence upon Jesus? As you consider your own life, what is one area where you need to trust Jesus more completely and willingly surrender control to Him?