
Matthew 19:16-30 (NLT) - Someone came to Jesus with this question: "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?" 17 "Why ask me about what is good?" Jesus replied. "There is only One who is good. But to answer your question—if you want to receive eternal life, keep the commandments."

18 "Which ones?" the man asked. And Jesus replied: "'You must not murder. You must not commit adultery. You must not steal. You must not testify falsely. 19 Honor your father and mother. Love your neighbor as yourself.'" 20 "I've obeyed all these commandments," the young man replied. "What else must I do?" 21 Jesus told him, "If you want to be perfect, go and sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." 22 But when the young man heard this, he went away sad, for he had many possessions. 23 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "I tell you the truth, it is very hard for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. 24 I'll say it again 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!" 25 The disciples were astounded. "Then who in the world can be saved?" they asked. 26 Jesus looked at them intently and said, "Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible." 27 Then Peter said to him, "We've given up everything to follow you. What will we get?"

28 Jesus replied, "I assure you that when the world is made new and the Son of Man sits upon his glorious throne, you who have been my followers will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. 29 And everyone who has given up houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or property, for my sake, will receive a hundred times as much in return and will inherit eternal life. 30 But many who are the greatest now will be least important then, and those who seem least important now will be the greatest then.

Matthew 13:44-46 (NLT) - 44 "The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure that a man discovered hidden in a field. In his excitement, he hid it again and sold everything he owned to get enough money to buy the field. 45 "Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant on the lookout for choice pearls. 46 When he discovered a pearl of great value, he sold everything he owned and bought it!

My destination impacts my decisions.

Study Guide

This last week we wrapped up our Money's Worth series by talking about how my destination impacts my decisions. In that conversation, we spoke a lot about success and how we measure our life. What does success look like to you? What do you think it means to be successful? As you think about your definition of success, how easy would it be for others to guess what your goal (destination) is by the decisions you make?

The reality is that our decisions do ultimately define where we end up in life, and therefore we should be deciding based on where we are aiming for. Take a moment to read James 2:14-26.

James is pointing out that this is not just a salvation question, and more a matter of how we measure the strength and commitment of our faith, which is ultimately reflected in my actions. Do I want to be like Jesus? Then I need to make the decisions that he would. Do I want to be who God created me to be? Then I need to decide to do what I can to become a little more like that person today.

So, what would that look like for you? How could you seek to, even in a small way, decide to embrace who God calls you to be more fully? What decisions could you make today that would help your actions match where you want to be?

These are not always easy questions to ask, but they are important. Take some time to share and pray with each other.