

Matthew 19:16 - 20:34 Seriously, Follow Me.

▼Intro/Review

- Respect, reconciliation, relationship. At the heart of what it means to be a disciple of Rabbi Jesus.
- Going to see it in action here.

▼19:16-30 Respect in action

▼19:16-22

▼19:16

- Who was this man? Luke 18:18 describes him as a ruler, an archon. Leader of a Synagogue perhaps town council.
- With what attitude did this man approach Jesus? Show off? Merely inquisitive wanting to learn? Genuinly? I suspect genuinely based on how he left.
- ▼What did he want to know? What is the assumption in the question?
 - Concept of salvation based on self-righteousness in the law.
 - Add to that perception of God's blessing evidenced by riches, God's cursing evidenced by poverty and suffering. Long life plus riches was ultimate in reverence.
 - Righteousness through the law - Jesus, Paul, Peter, all NT authors say "now way." But isn't that what our culture thinks? Or not being as bad as others? Or judged based on intentions? Romans 3:21-26.
 - As for perception of riches, poverty, and God's blessing, while there is a general truth to that, the absolute of it flies in the face of being a Christian in the world. Is everything bad an attack from the devil and everything good a blessing from the Lord? Sometimes it's the opposite. If it drives you to Jesus it's good. If it drives you away it's bad.

- 19:17 Huh?! Why didn't Jesus just tell him the gospel? Why does it sound like Jesus is contradicting Himself and teaching works righteousness? It's a setup. The guy is asking the wrong question and Jesus is going to steer him to the right one.

▼19:18-19

- Which ones? Um, all of them. Remember, written verses written plus oral Torah. 613 written.
- Jesus gives three from the 10 commandments, and one that is basically all encompassing. They all have man's treatment of man as their focus.
- Could someone get to a position of power and wealth while keeping all of these? Maybe in action, but what about heart? What did Jesus say about murder and adultery?

▼19:20

- How could he say this? Self delusion? Culture? We might never say this out loud, but do we think it? Do we operate like it?
- Why did he ask? Could he sense something was missing? Can you? Do you even care?

▼19:21

- Mark says Jesus looked at him and loved Him. Everything Jesus tells us is with love and with our best in mind.
- This life will be either the best or worst in your eternity. Apart from Jesus this is the

best you will ever have. In Him, it is the worst.

- Anything wrong with being rich? Nope! But it doesn't do for you what you think it will do. Sooner or later you come to the same conclusion as Solomon in Ecclesiastes.
- Rich and poor focus on the same thing; what they have and what they don't.
- Jesus tells him two things. Invest in eternity, and follow Him. How does he respond?

▼19:22

- Not the answer this guy was looking for!
- Utley. 1) He came with the right motives. 2) He came to the right person. 3) He came with the right questions (almost). 4) Jesus loved Him. But all of this wasn't enough. Why not? Because it isn't about it being enough.
- The guy didn't get past his preconceptions. He was hung up on the do when Jesus is about the done. He was stuck in law, didn't see the love. It's not about the deed, its about the need!
- He held his possessions and position as more important than price of being a disciple. He was at a "you mean I have to give up..." stage. Just as in a love relationship, if you are in love you will want to, for the most part.
- What possessions, what position are you hanging onto that are keeping you from following Jesus? What good deed are you hoping to perform, or have already performed, that will give you the "in" with God?
- What is it? What's holding you back? Ask Him and He will tell you. He will even tell you what to do about it. He will even give you His Spirit to help you do it!

▼19:23-30

- Walk through it.
- Even the disciples had a skewed view. Kinda like marriage and divorce in the last section.
- What does this mean? Lemme splain.

▼20:1-16

- Walk through it.
- Recall respect and sense of entitlement. What does God owe you? What did He promise? Does He owe you anything beyond that?
- Can I share a prayer with you? I need a promise from God. We, as a church, need one.
- 20:17-19 Is Jesus trying to get them back in focus? Perhaps. Look at next bit to see where their heads are.

▼20:20-28 Respect forgotten

- Walk through it
- 20:26-27 remember the thing about being children?
- 20:28 Jesus is our example, even in this. Recall Guzik on Jesus our servant. To what end? As a sacrifice for salvation, and beyond.
- 20:29-34 Messiah in action. This is what it was about. Followers. People to replicate what He did after He was gone. People to be disciples.

▼Wrapup

- Is your relationship with God through Jesus based on the right or wrong question? We may want the right thing yet misunderstand the plan. We need Jesus-expectations and Jesus' plan if we want to be followers of Jesus.
- What does God owe you? Consider that in light of what He's already given you. What do you owe God? Consider that in light of what He's already given on your behalf.
- Jesus is in the business of saving and changing lives both now and for eternity. He calls us to follow Him in that and He sets the example. Seriously, follow Him. If you want a life

like His, live like He did. That is His challenge.