



LIFELINE Discussion Guide

Week of November 11, 2024

1. Describe a time in your life when things went from “bad” to “worse”. What happened exactly and why is it still so memorable today? As you look back on it now, do you laugh... cry... or feel regret? Would you do anything differently if you could go back and live it over?
2. Have someone in your Life Group read Luke 18:18-23. Since this young man was a “rich, young ruler”—what were some of the things that he really had going for him in life? Why is it safe to think his question to Jesus about eternal life was sincere?
3. Why did Jesus take time to make an issue out of the word “good”? What is it about that is good? Is it only God’s actions that are good, or does it include His character and nature? (see Psalm 34:8 and Psalm 100:5). In a broken world, how have we adopted sinfully low standards about what is “good” in life? Can you give some examples? How are we often satisfied with “good enough”?
4. This young man claimed to have kept all the commands of God since he was a youth. His answer sounded good, but why was his claim actually untrue? (Before you answer, read Psalm 14:1-3 and Romans 3:10-12). Was he actually blameless as he claimed to be? What is God’s ultimate standard according to Matthew 5:48?
5. How does the Law of God drive us toward Jesus and His salvation? (see also Romans 5:20)
6. How did Jesus put this young guy on the road to the gospel, and true life change in verse 22? What would this young man need to “release” in order to follow Jesus with his whole heart?
7. How did this rich, young ruler go away WORSE than when he came?
8. In modern America, what are some of the things that secular people refuse to let go of— that hinders them from coming to faith in Jesus Christ? Can you name at least 5-7 specific things in today’s culture? Discuss your answers. Did you struggle with any of these before you became a Christian?

Close your group time with a prayer for increased commitment, devotion, and loyalty to Jesus alone.

We must come with empty hands to receive the fullness of Christ.