

QUESTIONS

- Life is complicated, and sometimes we have more questions than answers
- this chapter focuses on several questions that we often wrestle with
 - How far can I go?
 - What is God’s ideal for marriage?
 - What can I do to have eternal life? (the emphasis being on the “doing”)
 - How do kids fit in the picture?
 - How much stuff is enough?
 - How much can I keep?
 - What is the proper attitude toward money and wealth?
 - What’s in it for me?

1. MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

(1-2) QUESTIONED BY THE PHARISEES

- Even though Jesus was on the way to Jerusalem, He still spent time teaching the people
 - It was His custom
- the Pharisees used it as an occasion to ask Jesus a question
 - Not so they could get an answer, but that they might trap Him
 - Matthew adds “for any reason”
 - Two main schools of thought about divorce
- lesson = change the wording, and this is a question that gets asked often = Can I do (blank) and still be a Christian?
 - It’s like asking, “How much can I get away with?”

(3-9) THE ANSWER

- Jesus responded by asking the Pharisees what the law required
- they responded by quoting [Deuteronomy 24:1](#) – “When a man takes a wife and marries her, and it happens that she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some uncleanness in her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce, puts [it] in her hand, and sends her out of his house,
- the reason divorce was allowed = hardness of heart
- Jesus takes them back before the Law and explains God’s original intent for marriage

(10-12) JESUS EXPLAINS HIS ANSWER TO HIS DISCIPLES

- divorce was not part of God’s plan for the marriage and the family
- sometimes it is unavoidable, and there are exceptions, but we have made it too easy and acceptable

(13-16) THE BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

- the parents were bringing their children to Jesus

- What a beautiful picture
- I can't think of a better thing for a parent to do than to bring their children to Jesus
 - No matter how young or old, one way that we do this is to pray regularly for our children
 - [Job 1:5](#) – So it was, when the days of feasting had run their course, that Job would send and sanctify them, and he would rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings [according to] the number of them all. For Job said, "It may be that my sons have sinned and cursed God in their hearts." Thus Job did regularly.

- this offended the disciples, and they wanted to get the kids out of the way

- Unfortunately, a lot of people today get offended by having kids around

- there are some lessons we can learn from the kids

- Jesus loves children, and so should we

2. THE DANGER OF MONEY

[\(17-18\)](#) QUESTION FROM A RICH YOUNG GUY

[\(19-22\)](#) JESUS ANSWERS

[\(23-27\)](#) IT IS HARD FOR THE RICH

[\(28-31\)](#) THE FIRST WILL BE LAST

3. MORE LESSONS ON GREATNESS

[\(32-34\)](#) JESUS AGAIN TALKS ABOUT WHAT AWAITS HIM IN JERUSALEM

[\(35-37\)](#) QUESTION ABOUT POSITION IN THE KINGDOM

[\(38-41\)](#) JESUS ANSWERS

[\(42-45\)](#) THE PLACE OF GREATNESS

4. JESUS HEALS A BLIND MAN

[\(46-51\)](#) BARTIMAEUS HEALED