

Southside Baptist Church
Wednesday Night Worship – 10-29-25
Matthew Chapter 19 Part 15
Jesus encounters a rich young ruler.

1. Introduction:

a. Taking a look back:

- 1) Parents were bringing their children to Jesus.
- 2) The parents desire – “that he should put his hands on them and pray.” Verse 13.
- 3) The disciples rebuked the parents.
 - a) Jesus responds, “Suffer little children” – permit, allow them to come to me.
- 4) Three things concerning children:
 - a) Children are a gift from the Lord.
 - b) Children are examples of humility and faith.
 - c) Children are to be trained up by their parents.

b. Taking a look ahead:

- 1) This rich young ruler asks Jesus a question.
- 2) Is this about salvation or vindication?

2. Let's talk about what we see. Matthew 19:16-22

a. Some observations I received from the challenge last week.

b. Some personal observations.

- 1) Taking the time to make observations does help in rightly dividing the Word.
- 2) Observation 1 – Was the ruler's understanding of “good” different from Jesus'?
- 3) Observation 2 – We don't have a lot of concrete background about this man.
- 4) Observation 3 – This rich ruler believed he could earn heaven based on his life.
- 5) Observation 4 – Since he believed Jesus was good, maybe he thought he could be also.
- 6) Observation 5 – Something serious may have been going on in his life.
- 7) Observation 6 – His question isn't that foreign.
- 8) Observation 7 – Jesus uses the law.
- 9) Observation 8 – This helps us to see the deception that can happen to a person.
- 10) Observation 9 – This is a teaching moment for the disciples.

3. Jesus encounters a rich, young ruler. Matthew 19:16-22

a. Verse 16 –

- 1) “Good Master” –
- 2) His question concerning eternal life was rooted in works.
 - a) “what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life.”
 - b) What does this reveal?

b. Verse 17 –

- 1) Jesus wanted to know why this man called him “good”.
- 2) Why did Jesus ask this question?
- 3) This is a significant moment in this man's life.
- 4) Why did Jesus mention the commandments?
 - a) Romans 3:20 – The law exposes sin.
- 5) What is he hearing? What is he seeing?
 - a) James 1:22-25 –

c. Verse 18-19 –

- 1) Jesus quoted the second part of the Law which governed a person's responsibility to another.
- 2) Jesus did not list all the commandments here. Why?
 - a) James 2:10 –
- 3) What do you think is going through this young man's mind?
- 4) From the Sermon on the Mount –
- d. Verse 20 –
 - 1) Pay close attention here.
 - 2) Jesus tells this young man to sell all he has.
- e. Verse 21 –
 - 1) "perfect" – one who has reached the proper height of virtue and character.
 - 2) Obedience to Jesus here would have shown faith and it is that faith that would have made him righteous.
 - 3) Is it wiser to see this as evidence and fruit that Jesus is God.
 - 4) Jesus exposed who this young man's "god" really was.
 - 5) When sharing the Gospel, we don't always see the battle taking place in their mind.
- f. Verse 22 –
 - 1) This young man made his decision.
 - a) "he went away sorrowful".
 - 2) What was the reason he rejected Jesus?
 - a) He could have gone away as the lame man from Acts 3.
 - 3) Imagine for a moment the death of this man if nothing changed.
- g. Application:
 - 1) II Corinthians 4:17-18 –
 - a) We cannot serve two masters. Matthew 6:24
4. Tonight's Take Away:
 - a. What do you think is an important take away for us from this story tonight?