



Small Group Study Guide
SERMON: WHAT MUST I DO?
January 29, 2026 | CrossPointe Church
Josh Carter, Pastor

INTRODUCTION: *DISCOVER*

Luke 18 reveals that the Kingdom of God belongs not to the self-sufficient or the "successful," but to those who approach Jesus with the humble, persistent desperation of a child or a beggar. In Sunday's sermon we explored the question, "What must I do...?" This question helps us identify some of the little "g" gods that tend to overtake the seat designated for God. Ultimately, this chapter calls us to a radical shift in perspective where the only barrier to following Jesus is our own refusal to admit our need for Him.

SCRIPTURES

- Luke 18:8
- Luke 18:14
- Luke 18:17
- Luke 18:27

SCRIPTURE TO REMEMBER

²⁷ But he said, "What is impossible with man is possible with God."
(Luke 18:27 ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: *DEVELOP*

1. **Persistent Prayer (v. 1-8):** Jesus tells the Parable of the Persistent Widow to show that we should "always pray and not lose heart." When have you been most tempted to give up on a specific prayer?
 - How does knowing that God is a "just judge" (unlike the one in the story) change how you approach Him?
2. **The Heart of Worship (v. 9-14):** In the Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector, one man was confident in his own righteousness while the other begged for mercy. In what areas of your life are you tempted to compare your "moral excellence" to others rather than looking at your own heart before God?
3. **Childlike Faith (v. 15-17):** Jesus says the Kingdom of God belongs to those who receive it like a child. What specifically about a child's faith—their dependence, trust, or humility—do you find most challenging to emulate in your current season of life?
4. **Barriers to Discipleship (v. 18-27):** The rich young ruler was willing to follow many rules, but struggled to give up his wealth. Josh referred to these as "little 'g' gods". What is the "one thing" in your life that feels most difficult to surrender to Jesus' control?
 - How does Jesus' statement that "What is impossible with man is possible with God" give you hope for that area?

5. **The Cost and Reward (v. 28-30):** Peter points out that the disciples left everything to follow Jesus. How have you personally experienced the promise that God provides "many times as much" in this age and eternal life in the age to come, even when following Him requires sacrifice?
6. **Spiritual Blind Spots (v. 31-34):** Even after Jesus clearly predicted His death and resurrection, the disciples "did not understand any of these things." Why do we sometimes miss what God is clearly showing us in Scripture? What can we do to keep our hearts open to difficult truths?
7. **Faith in Action (v. 35-43):** The blind beggar cried out for mercy despite the crowd telling him to be quiet. Where in your life do you need to be more like him—boldly seeking Jesus' help even when the "crowd" (culture, friends, or your own doubts) tells you to stay silent?
8. **Rich Ruler vs. Blind Beggar:** Both of these men approached Jesus lacking something. Only one would leave the conversation following Jesus. The Beggar shows his dependence on Jesus. Why do you think it is difficult for us to rely on Jesus more than we do our own resources and abilities?

SERMON POINTS:

- Do my possessions “possess” me?
- “What is impossible with man is possible with God.” (Luke 18:27)
- “There is nothing “we” can do to “earn” heaven. It is given through the mercy and grace of Jesus.

ACTION STEPS: DO

- Identify a “little ‘g’ god” in your life that distracts you from God.
- Pray this week with a humble heart focusing on how much you need God’s grace and mercy.
- Have a conversation with someone about their faith. An introduction to consider: “Hey, how often do you think about God or faith?”

PRAYER

- *“God, thank you so much for your mercy and grace. We pray this week that you would help us humble ourselves and identify the idols or gods we have placed in your seat. Give us the courage and confidence to remove them so you can have your rightful place in our lives. Amen.”*

**PLEASE TAKE A GROUP PICTURE AND TAG PT
(Franklin Tracy Pounders) and Tabatha Pankey ON FACEBOOK !!!**