



## A Renewal of the Use of Money

### March 27                      Matthew 19:16-29

#### Object Lessons and Storytelling Ideas

- Retell the story with a modern slant - what is an equivalent for your kids to selling all their possessions?
- Jesus is challenging the young man to value Jesus and his kingdom more than his earthly possessions - a form of idolatry. What does idolatry look like in our world - what are things that the world thinks are more important than God? In the church?
- Demonstrate a "camel through the eye of a needle" type scenario. Could God make this work? We can't do it ourselves (ie. save ourselves), but he can!
- Act out somebody trying to buy salvation at a grocery store. The rich young ruler is looking for a simple ticket to eternal life - like buying something at the grocery store, you pay for it and it's yours. A change of heart can be much harder to understand.

#### Discussion Ideas and Questions

- Is it wrong to be rich? Why do you think Jesus says it is harder for somebody who is rich to enter God's kingdom?
- Is it ever impossible for somebody to be saved?
- What do we rely on to make us happy or to give us life? Family? Friends? Toys? Sports? Good grades? None of these things will make us happy or give us life, only Jesus can. What does it look like to turn to him?
- Jesus' kingdom is upside down, meaning it is hard for us to understand sometimes. Why do you think Peter was still focused on what he would get?

#### At Home Connections

- Take time as a family to use what you have to bless somebody else - have kids go through old toys to donate, encourage them to use their allowance to buy a gift for somebody that they wouldn't normally, spend time volunteering or building relationships with less fortunate families.
- Involve your children in making decisions regarding your family's charitable giving. Talk about where you already give and why. What issues are close to your children's hearts that they would like your family to support?
- Sponsor a Compassion child (or something similar) specifically for your child. Encourage them to build a relationship and contribute financially as they get older.