

**LIVING LASTLY**

*Matthew 19:16 - 30*

**Devotional Reading: 1 Samuel 2:1 - 10**

**Background Scripture: Matthew 19:16 - 30**

**LESSON AIMS:** the students will:

- **IDENTIFY** the Old Testament commandments Jesus cited
- **EXPLAIN** what Jesus meant by the first being last and the last being first
- **IDENTIFY** any "do more to get right with God" habit in one's life and seek the Spirit's guidance in breaking free of it

**INTRODUCTION:** When the rich young ruler asked Jesus what he must do to have eternal life, Jesus replied that the man must keep the Old Testament commandments. It is interesting that the young man felt that he had kept them all. He learned that his effort to keep the Law was not enough. He will learn that self-sufficiency and human pride are not the path to eternal life.

**KEY VERSE:** <sup>24</sup> *And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.* *Matthew 19:24 / KJV*

**LESSON:**

A Seeker's Inquiry

Matthew 19:16 - 22

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The Savior's Instruction

verses 23 - 30

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**Summary:** "What must I do to gain eternal life?" the answer to this question helps us understand whether or not we truly love the Lord. The young ruler's decision gave Jesus the opportunity to teach about riches and wealth. Many falsely think that more effort in doing and living righteously guarantees our salvation. It is not earthly treasures, but our heart with Jesus. Jesus saw the sacrifices that His disciples made to follow Him. They left everything to follow their King. He said they will inherit a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.

**Questions:**

1. *How would you respond to someone claiming to have eternal life only because of their acts of goodness?*
2. *What attitudes prevent believers from being perfect, like our Heavenly Father is perfect? [Matthew 5:48]?*
3. *What steps should believers take to ensure their material wealth does not hinder their following God?*

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<b>DAY / DATE</b>	<b>SCRIPTURE</b>	
<i>Mon., Feb. 10<sup>th</sup></i>	God is Generous to All	Matthew 20:1 – 16
<i>Tue., Feb. 11<sup>th</sup></i>	Those Who Are Generous Are Blessed	Proverbs 22:1 – 9
<i>Wed., Feb. 12<sup>th</sup></i>	Blessings and Woes	Luke 6:20 – 26
<i>Thurs., Feb. 13<sup>th</sup></i>	Be Rich in Good Works	1 Timothy 6:17 – 21
<i>Fri., Feb. 14<sup>th</sup></i>	God Sets All Things Right	1 Samuel 2:1 – 10
<i>Sat., Feb. 15<sup>th</sup></i>	God Lifts Up the Poor	Psalm 113
<i>Sun., Feb. 16<sup>th</sup></i>	All Things Are Possible with God	Matthew 19:16 - 30