

The Illusion

Read: Luke 18:9-14.

- What caused this proud pharisee to have so much self confidence?
- How does relative righteousness affect you today?
- What is the illusion of self sufficiency?
 - How do near death experiences pop the bubble of self sufficiency?
 - Read: Matthew 3:13-17; 5:17-20, 48 and John 8:46
 - How does God burst our spiritual self sufficiency in these texts?

The right paradigm

Read Matthew 19:13-15.

- How does the illustration of little children with no standing under the Law, contrast the Pharisees in Matthew 19:3?
 - Read: Matthew 18:1-4.
 - what does the illustration of little children emphasize?
 - Read: Jonah 2:1-10.
 - How does this chapter demonstrate the right paradigm for salvation?

the wrong paradigm

Read: Matthew 19:16-22.

- Why does Jesus ask him what is good?
 - Read: Romans 3:10-20 and Acts 17:30-31.
 - What do you think Jesus was illustrating to this man about God's absolute ethic?
 - Read Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4.
 - How does the Law do more than simply show us what is wrong?
- How does Jesus use the Law here to show this man his idolatry without even using the first commandment (Exodus 20:1-6)?
- How does Matthew 6:19-24 illustrate this man's idolatry?
- This section is showing us that man can do nothing to save himself. Read: John 3:1-9.
 - how does Nicodemus parallel this story in showing the wrong paradigm for salvation?

the impossibility

Read: Matthew 19:23-26.

- based on 1 Timothy 6:10, why is it difficult for the rich to see their need for salvation?
 - In your own life, how does wealth tempt you towards the illusion of self-sufficiency?
 - the first part of Jesus' reply to the disciples despair is that with man it is impossible to be saved. this is the main idea: **There is nothing YOU can do to be saved.** And it leads to some very serious implications...

the implications

this man came with good motives; he came to the right person; he came with the right questions; and Jesus loved him (Mark 10:21)...and yet we see him leave the scene going to hell.

Read: John 3:18.

- What was his, and our condition?
- How does Romans 1:18 and Revelation 19:15 show us a tiny glimpse of God's personal wrath towards sinners?

the imperative

Read: Luke 12:49-59.

Like a Child -sermon study - Matthew 19:13-26
-Matt Smith

-There is nothing YOU can do to not go to Hell -no attitude to embody - no action to perform - no association to belong to - There is nothing you can do to be saved. You bring nothing to the table. Here is what you have left = you must ask. bringing nothing to the table. like a child.

Our passage ends with grace however - "with God all things are possible"

-How does the cross demonstrate the FULL wrath of God and the FULL love of God without lessening either of the other one?

Read the following article and discuss:

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/the-gospel-that-is-killing-us-44697/>

And then, read Jonathan Edwards sermon together and discuss:

<http://www.ccel.org/ccel/edwards/sermons.sinners.html>