

MY VALUES

This is the story of a young ruler who came to Jesus to ask what he could do to receive eternal life. He must have come from a rich family because he had "great wealth" at an early age. Jesus "threw him a curve" and asked him to sell everything and give the money to the poor. This questionnaire is going to ask you some hard questions.

THE RICH RULER

A certain ruler asked him, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

"You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not steal, do not give false testimony, honor your father and mother.' " "All these I have kept since I was a boy, " he said. When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was a man of great wealth. Jesus looked at him and said, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard this asked, "Who then can be saved?" Jesus replied, "What is impossible with men is possible with God." Luke 18:18-27

1. How do you feel about the rich young ruler?

- sorry for him-He couldn't help it that he was rich.
- disappointed in him-He walked away from God.
- upset-Jesus should not have been so hard on him.
- frustrated-Does this mean I have to give up everything I have, too?

2. What would you do if Jesus asked you to sell everything you had and give the proceeds to the poor?

- have my hearing checked
- hold a garage sale this Saturday
- sadly walk away
- compute my net worth and think about it
- increase my giving to the church

3. Being totally honest, what are your top three priorities in life now? a good time

- good friendships
- greater intimacy with God
- being true to myself
- making a contribution to the world
- a good marriage / family
- having nice things
- developing my spiritual gifts
- other:
- making lots of money
- financial independence / security

4. Right now, who influences you most on your values?

- my parents / grandparents
- my peers
- my spouse / boyfriend / girlfriend
- my pastor / church
- the media / TV

5. How much has your commitment to Jesus Christ and his way of life influenced your values?

- a lot
- a little
- not as much as I would like
- not at all

6. Jesus knew that the young ruler's riches were a barrier between him and God. If Jesus were to evaluate your life, what would he say holds you back from being totally committed to God?

- wealth
- apathy
- habit or temptations
- doubts about issues of faith
- fear of being labeled a fanatic
- other:

7. What do you need to do to store up "treasure in heaven"?

- Invest more time in loving people and less in loving things.
- Talk to more people about Christ.
- Keep doing what I'm already doing.
- Cut back on my lifestyle.
- Overhaul my priorities.
- Spend more time at church.
- other:

8. How would you like the group to pray for you?