

Weekly Study Guide

The Week of March 3, 2013

Daily Readings

Monday	Luke 18:1-8	Tuesday	Luke 18:9-14	Wednesday	Luke 18:15-17
Thursday	Luke 18:18-30	Friday	Luke 18:31-34	Saturday	Luke 18:35-43

My notes on this week's readings...

Next Week in Worship

Next week's message: *The Great Ones*

Next week's readings: Matthew 20:17-28

On his road to the cross, Jesus' way of love collides with people who live their lives by other priorities. When our *Collide* series continues next week, we'll read the story of Jesus' collision with people who followed the way of power, and we'll learn about his offer of life in the way of humility.



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Group Discussion

Connect

Have you ever sold any personal possessions, maybe through a classified ad or Craigslist? What was that experience like?

Learn

Read Luke 18:18-30. This is a story that can raise a lot of questions. It can be hard to understand and also hard to apply to our lives.

- What do you think are the key teachings or actions in this story?
- What does this story make you think, feel, or wonder?

Consider the conversation in **Luke 18:20-22**. The man affirms that he has kept all God's commandments, but Jesus tells him that he has one more thing he must do. He must sell everything and give it to the poor and thus gain treasure in heaven. Then, Jesus says, "Come, follow me."

- The man says he has followed God's commandments. Jesus doesn't dispute this. Do you think Jesus is affirming his righteous character or just letting it go? Why do you think so?
- Jesus tells this man he must sell all his possessions and give away the proceeds, but Jesus hasn't set that same requirement for everyone. Zacchaeus is praised in Luke 19 for giving away half his possessions, which was still an act of radical generosity but not the same thing as here. Why do you think Jesus says this?
- Jesus' final command to this man was "Follow me." What is the connection between this invitation and the demand to sell all his possessions?
- In vv. 24-25, Jesus says that wealth can make it very difficult for people to follow him or "enter the Kingdom of God." There can be many different things that make it hard for people to follow Jesus. Why do you suppose wealth is one of those things?
- At the end of the passage, Jesus reassures Peter regarding the sacrifices that are made in following him. What does he say?

Apply

What do you sense God is saying to you in this passage? How will you respond?

Pray

If you haven't used the words of the Lord's Prayer in your prayer time together, try praying this prayer that Jesus taught his disciples. You can find the words in Matthew 6:9-13