

## Reflection Questions: Luke 18:15-30

For the message, "How to Enter the Kingdom of God" given by Pastor John Ferguson at Mercy Hill Church in Bryan/College Station, Texas, on April 10, 2022

---

*These reflection questions are designed to help you apply the message from the Scriptures by helping you think through application to your personal life, your church life, and your city's life. You can use these by yourself for reflection, or with your family or small group for discussion. To review the message, go to [MercyHillBCS.org/resources/messages](http://MercyHillBCS.org/resources/messages).*

### **INTRODUCTION**

**Pray.** Take a moment to pray asking God to guide you in reflecting upon the Scripture text.

**Read the Scripture text:** Luke 18:15-30

**15** Now they were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them. And when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. **16** But Jesus called them to him, saying, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. **17** Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it."

**18** And a ruler asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" **19** And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. **20** You know the commandments: Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother." **21** And he said, "All these I have kept from my youth." **22** When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me."

**23** But when he heard these things, he became very sad, for he was extremely rich. **24** Jesus, seeing that he had become sad, said, "How difficult it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! **25** For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." **26** Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" **27** But he said, "What is impossible with man is possible with God." **28** And Peter said, "See, we have left our homes and followed you." **29** And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, **30** who will not receive many times more in this time, and in the age to come eternal life."

---

### **Let's get started...**

- What initially grabbed your attention in this text? What questions or thoughts come to mind as you reflect on what it's saying?

### **QUESTIONS**

1. What point is Jesus making by his saying about children and the kingdom of God, (verses 16-17)?
2. Are you surprised by the way Jesus answers the ruler's question, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"? Why do you think Jesus pointed this man to the commandments?

3. When Jesus told this man, “One thing you still lack...,” he was placing his finger on the one thing that was most important to this man. Why does Jesus say that he must give this up and follow him in order to have eternal life?
4. Jesus uses a striking metaphor to describe how difficult it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God. Why is wealth such a trap for people?
5. Reflect on 1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19.

**6** But godliness with contentment is great gain, **7** for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. **8** But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. **9** But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. **10** For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs....

- What strikes you as particularly important or insightful in these words?

**17** As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. **18** They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, **19** thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

- How are you challenged “to be rich in good works” from this passage, what following Jesus looks like for those of us wanting to be good stewards of what God has entrusted to us?
- How does the Gospel of Jesus keep us from trusting in our good works?

### CONCLUSION QUESTION

What is the one thing you want to take away from this study to remember or to make a change in your life?

### PRAYER

What are some ways you can turn what you are learning into prayer? List them as bullet points....

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_