

CURRICULUM GUIDE

Matthew Season 5: Impossible to Possible
Episode 9: Little Child vs. Rich Young Ruler
July 23 & 26, 2026
Pastor One Mokgatle

LEADER NOTES – Leading Well in 7 Minutes or Less: Listen to ALL episodes for free on [Spotify](#) or [Apple](#).

2026 - Summer trimester: 6/1–7/27 **Fall trimester:** 8/17–12/7

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Partner with Operation Barnabas: Become a mentor for veterans and first responders navigating crises. Both males and females are welcome to serve. [Click here](#)

[Sign up here](#) to receive monthly Serve Opportunities in our community from Outreach.

Serve at our Church Leaders Summit: As a church, we get to serve the body of Christ by hosting the 2nd annual Church Leaders Summit at our San Pablo campus. Learn more and sign up to serve at churchleaderssummit.com/serve.

Neighborhood Nights: This fall, Neighborhood Nights are coming to every Eleven22 campus—an unforgettable in-person experience with Pastor Joby in your neighborhood. Join us for a powerful evening of worship, storytelling, vision and fellowship as we lean into what God is calling us to in this next season. [Learn More.](#)

THIS WEEK’S READING PLAN: Download our app for [Apple](#) or [Android](#). Click the “Daily” icon at the bottom of the app for our daily Bible reading plan.

Share Wins, Praises and Prayers: Where did you see God move this week?

Action Step Review: Last week’s action step: *If you’re married, pray with your spouse every day this week. If you’re single, pray for your future spouse or for greater devotion to Christ. If you’re divorced or widowed, thank God for His unending love and pray for continued healing.* How did God answer your prayers? What did you learn about God? About yourself?

Memory Verse: Matthew 19:26

Sermon Text: Matthew 19:13-30; Mark 10:17; John 3:4

Discussion Questions

Leaders: Please use the questions in the curriculum to facilitate discussion of the sermon and the Scriptures. **But there's no need to answer every question.** The goal is to get your group members talking more than you and to get them going deeper. **The "answers" in parenthesis** are only possible answers to use after your group has given their responses, to help continue the discussion.

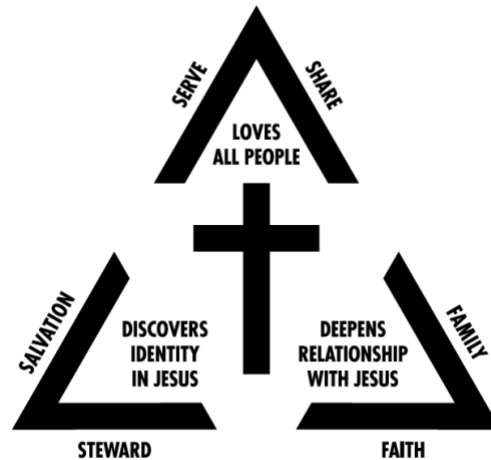
- **Read Matthew 19:13-30. What stood out to you this week in the sermon, in the Scriptures and what God revealed to you about Himself?**
- **What differences do you see in Jesus's encounters with the children and the rich young man?** (*The children had nothing to offer, yet they came to Jesus and He received them. The rich young man kept every commandment, yet he rejected Jesus's offer and walked away empty.*)
- **Discover:** Why did the disciples rebuke the children? (*Children had no standing, legal rights, social claim, or power. A child received everything or nothing on the will and grace of the one who held authority over them. The disciples had a framework that you invest in people who carry weight and can move the mission forward. You guard the teacher's time for those who have something significant to bring.*)
Deepen: What does Jesus see in the children? (*Jesus saw their posture of seeking and reaching for Him. The unguarded, unearned, open-handed posture. And Jesus said that is what the kingdom looks like when it is received. You don't climb your way into the kingdom. We do not arrive. We are carried. We do not achieve entry. We are received by Jesus entirely on the basis of WHO HE IS, not on what we have done.*)
- **What are some reasons Jesus answers the rich young man's question with another question?** (*Jesus is exposing the foundation the question is built on—the merit framework, the religion that says eternal life is the prize for good deeds. The question was never, "What must I do?" The question was always, "Do I know who Jesus is?"*)
- **Why does the man feel there is more for him to do? What do his words reveal about his heart?** (*This man has done everything. He has built his life around obeying God, and after every sacrifice and religious duty performed, he still felt the gap. Obedience without surrender is still self-reliance dressed in religious clothing.*)
- **Discover:** Read Matthew 19:23-30. Why were the disciples shocked? (*In the Old Testament, wealth was the sign of God's favor. The disciples would have built their theology of blessing and eternal life on that.*)
Deepen: What does Jesus's response to the rich man walking away teach us about the Kingdom of Heaven? (*Nothing this world uses to measure your value transfers to God's Kingdom. Jesus does not reward accumulation. He honors surrender. What the world called "success," Jesus calls empty. What the world called "sacrifice," Jesus calls inheritance. A drowning person cannot save themselves. Jesus didn't come to help us do better. He came to do what we could never do for ourselves.*)
- **Discover:** Read Matthew 19:21. What does the man's refusal to follow Jesus's command reveal about his heart? (*This is not a universal command. Jesus delivered a verdict on THIS man's heart. His possessions were not just things he owned—they owned him. Jesus reaches past every commandment the young man has kept and puts his finger on the thing underneath: his wealth. Jesus offered him the very thing he had been searching for his entire life, yet he couldn't receive it because his hands were too full of something else.*)
Deepen: What is God asking you to let go of to receive the fullness of His kingdom? (*Leaders: If your group is having difficulty answering, ask them to pair off and discuss. See James 5:16. Be careful if you think this doesn't apply to you. You can be poor in pocket and rich in idolatry.*)

Action Step: Spend time alone with Jesus this week and ask: "What am I holding that I trust more than You?" Write down whatever He reveals. Pray for the faith to hold everything in your life with open hands.

Your Discipleship Journey

- **RightNow Media:** Find an *unending supply of resources* by signing up for a FREE RightNow Media account. Go to coe22.com/rightnowmedia or text “RightNow” to 441122.

(Note: You'll need to login or create an account to view RightNow Media content.)



Go to coe22.com/growthtrack, scroll down to “What’s Growth Track?” and click the words, “Discipleship Triangle” to download or print a discipleship journey tool with questions for you to ask yourself and others. Please share the link and directions with others in your group.