



**MEFC Community Group Study Questions**  
For the week of October 7<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>

**Getting Started**

1. Our nation is not only the wealthiest on earth, it is also the wealthiest nation in the history of the world. As far as our mission to be and make disciples of Jesus, how is this an extraordinary asset? On the other hand, how is it an extraordinary liability?

**Digging Deeper**

2. In Proverbs 30:7-9, we encounter what might be called “the golden mean” with regard to personal wealth and possessions. What is the author saying? What are the cautions he lays down for both poverty and riches? According to verse 8, what is the standard of living for which he's praying? How is he measuring that standard (v.8)?

**Open Your Bible to Luke 18:18-34...**

3. In verse 18, the ruler refers to Jesus as “Good Teacher”. How does Jesus respond to him (v.19)? What does his response mean?

4. Next, Jesus takes the ruler to five of the Ten Commandments in order to answer his question about what one must do to inherit eternal life (vv.18, 20). What is Jesus doing? Is he saying that a person can be saved by works? Why or why not?

5. Instead of being humbled by God's law, the ruler's self-esteem appears to be inflated by it (v.21). According to Paul, what is the true design of the law (Romans 3:20; Galatians 3:23-24)? Have you ever been in an evangelistic conversation where your use of God's law didn't humble, but instead seemed to harden the person you spoke with? If so, explain.

6. Is Jesus denying private property and demanding wealth-redistribution for anyone who would follow him (vv.22-23)? How do you know? How does this passage dovetail with some of our recent discussions about “social justice”?

7. As a resident of the broader West Metro of Minneapolis, do verses 24-25 get under your skin at all? (*Hint*: They ought to!) Every person working this study right now is “wealthy” by Jesus' standards. *Can* a camel go through the eye of a needle? Explain.

8. Conclude your study with a careful examination of vv.26-34. How many concrete reasons for the hope of your (and our) salvation can you identify in this passage? Close your time as a group by encouraging one another in these truths.