

Sermon Study and Discussion Guide

SERIES: Close Encounters with Jesus

MESSAGE: "Turning From Idols"

PASSAGE: Luke 18:18-27

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 things I have kept from my youth." 22 When Jesus heard this, He said to him, "One thing you still lack ; sell all that you possess and distribute it to the poor, and you shall have treasure in heaven ; and come, follow Me." 23 But when he had heard these things, he became very sad, for he was extremely rich. 24 And Jesus looked at him and said, "How hard it is for those who are wealthy 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 man to enter the kingdom of God." 26 They who heard it said, "Then who can be saved ?" 27 But He said, "The things that are impossible with people are possible with God."

What is this man's idol?

What other kinds of idols are there? To which idols might I be enslaved?

Why are idols so powerful?

Do idols really give us the life we desire?

What do they really do to us?

How is Jesus an altogether different "master" than idols?

How is Jesus the ultimate wealthy ruler? (2 Corinthians

What will it mean for me to repent of my idolatry and receive the righteousness of Jesus as my life?

What practical difference will it make to turn from idols and live out of the gospel (particularly with regard to self-image and how I either love or use people)?