



Connect Discussion Guide

04.17.22 Message | Tyler Myers | Romans 1:16; Matthew 19:16-30

Key Scriptures:

The young man said to him, “All these I have kept. What do I still lack?” Jesus said to him, “If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

- Matthew 19:20-22

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

- Romans 1:16

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

- Philippians 4:4-9

Message Highlights:

- Easter is the invitation to new life in and with Christ and the reminder we can declare with confidence that ‘Jesus loves me, this I know, for the bible tells me so.’
- Jesus invited the rich young man to trust in something that would truly give him life and to turn away from the things he thought might give him life.
- God is the sustainer of life and the giver of all good gifts.
- The resurrection doesn’t solve all the consequences of a sinful world, but it does erase the finality of those consequences.

Conversation Starter:

Name some of your future “unknowns”, whether it be related to tomorrow’s schedule, where you will be working in five years, how you will pay for ____, etc. Now, name one thing you DO know, which overpowers the importance of everything you previously talked about. Discuss with your group.

Discuss the Message:

1. In Matthew 19, Jesus teaches the young man that good isn’t found in a deed, but rather in God.
 - a. What good deeds have you, consciously or unconsciously, associated with ultimate good?
 - b. Discuss the difference between earning your way into salvation and surrendering your ways to God’s to receive his free gift of salvation. Highlight the freedom that comes with surrender, contrasted with the striving associated with earning.
2. The young man asks a powerful question of Jesus in Matthew 19:20, “What do I lack?”
 - a. If you have asked this question to Jesus before, what did he show you? If not, what fears or barriers are holding you back?
 - b. On the contrary, what do you currently possess that Jesus might be asking you to let go of? How might you go about doing that?
3. The resurrection does not eliminate doubts, pain or even death, but it does erase the finality of those consequences.
 - a. How does Jesus’ resurrection declare victory over the present brokenness we live in?
 - b. Does the way you live your day-to-day life reflect the immense victory we have in Christ? If so, how? If not, how can you live more aware and appreciative of Jesus’ victory over death’s consequences?

Pray:

Father, we praise you for the salvation you have provided through giving your Son, Jesus, our Christ! We rejoice in the good news of his resurrection, your mighty power that saves all who believe! We confess that even in light of the hope you have given us, we still struggle with anxious thoughts and the worries of this world. Holy Spirit, guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus! Help us to see that we lack nothing in you, that we might willingly abandon anything we are clinging to that holds us back from following Jesus. Amen.