

LIFE OF CHRIST  
from the gospel of  
Luke

Lesson 42

The Rich Young Man

Luke 18:18-30

# Life of Christ

## The Rich Young Man

Luke 18:18-30

### Younger Verse

Jesus said to all of them, "If people want to follow me, they must give up everything they want." Luke 9:23

### Older Verse

Jesus said to all of them, "If people want to follow me, they must give up everything they want. They must be willing to give up their lives daily to follow me." Luke 9:23

### Bible Story



Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.

One day, a religious leader came to Jesus and asked Him, "Good teacher, what should I do to get eternal life?" Jesus asked the man why he called Him good. He said that only God is truly good. What the man didn't know is that Jesus is the Son of God.

Jesus told the man, "You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery. Do not murder. Do not steal. Do not lie. Honor your father and mother.'"

The leader said that he had followed all of those commandments since he was a child. Jesus told him that he still needed to do one more thing. He needed to sell everything he had and give the money to those in need. Jesus said, "Then come, follow me."

But the man became sad, because he was very rich. He did not want to get rid of everything he owned. He did not love God more than money. So he went away from Jesus.

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "It is hard for the rich to enter God's kingdom. 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."

Those who heard this asked Jesus, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus answered, "What is impossible for people is possible with God."

Then Peter, one of the disciples, told Jesus that he and the other disciples had left everything to follow Jesus.

### Lesson Goals

**Learn that we must love God more than anything**  
**Understand that anyone can be saved**  
**Learn that it is only through faith that we are saved**

Jesus said that anyone who has given up houses, land, family, or anything for God's kingdom will get much more than what they left behind. And they will receive eternal life and treasures in heaven.

Some people think that if they do good things and follow the rules that this will get them to heaven. But the Bible says that we must believe in Jesus and follow Him to be saved. In Ephesians 2:8-9, it says that we are saved "by grace through believing. You did not save yourselves; it was a gift from God. It was not the result of your own efforts, so you cannot brag about it."

The only way to be saved is to believe that Jesus died on the cross for your sins. Believe that He rose again three days later. Ask Him to forgive your sins and come into your life. Give Him control of your life. Then you can know that you have eternal life.

#### Review Questions

1. What did Jesus tell the man he must do to receive eternal life? (Sell everything he owned and give the money to those in need.)
2. How did the man respond to this command? (He went away sad because he loved his riches.)
3. Jesus said it is hard for a rich man to enter God's kingdom. What did he compare it to? (A camel going through the eye of a needle.)
4. How did Jesus answer when the people asked Him who could be saved? ("What is impossible for people is possible with God.")

#### Life Application

The rich man thought he was doing all right. He was bragging that he had followed all the commandments. But he had not given God all of his heart. He loved his things more than God. He was not willing to give up his riches to follow Jesus.

What about you? You may not be rich, but is there anything that you love more than God? God wants to have first place in our heart.

Planning for Lesson 43  
Zacchaeus  
Luke 19:1-10

**Preschool Lesson  
for  
The Rich Young Man**

One day, a church leader came to Jesus and asked Him, “Good teacher, what should I do to get eternal life?” Jesus asked the man why he called Him good. He said that only God is truly good. What the man didn’t know is that Jesus is the Son of God.

Jesus told the man, “You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery. Do not murder. Do not steal. Do not lie. Honor your father and mother.’”

The leader said that he had followed all of those commandments since he was a child. Jesus told him that he still needed to do one more thing. He needed to sell everything he had and give the money to those in need. Jesus said, “Then come, follow me.”

But the man became sad, because he was very rich. He did not want to get rid of everything he owned. He did not love God more than money. So he went away from Jesus.

Then Jesus said to His disciples, “It is hard for the rich to enter God’s kingdom. 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.”

Those who heard this asked Jesus, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus answered, “What is impossible for people is possible with God.”

The only way to be saved is to believe that Jesus died on the cross for your sins. Believe that He rose again three days later. Ask Him to forgive your sins and come into your life. Give Him control of your life. Then you can know that you have eternal life.



**Hands-on Activities  
for  
The Rich Young Man**

Jesus mentioned the Ten Commandments in this lesson. Do you know where they are in the Bible? Take time to look them up with the kids. They can be found in 2 books of the Bible: Exodus 20:1-17 and Deuteronomy 5:6-21. Explain what they mean.

Arrange furniture so that there is a very small space that the kids must squeeze through. Let them try to get through the space. Explain that the “eye of the needle” was a way for Jesus to help His friends understand that just as it is hard to squeeze through a small space, it is hard for a rich man to go to Heaven—because he loves his money more than God.

Bring a needle and thread. Take volunteers to try to put the thread through the eye of the needle. Now ask if they could fit a large animal, like a camel, through the needle’s eye. Of course not! But with God, all things are possible.

Jesus said to all of them,  
“If people want to follow  
me, they must give up the  
things they want.”

Luke 9:23

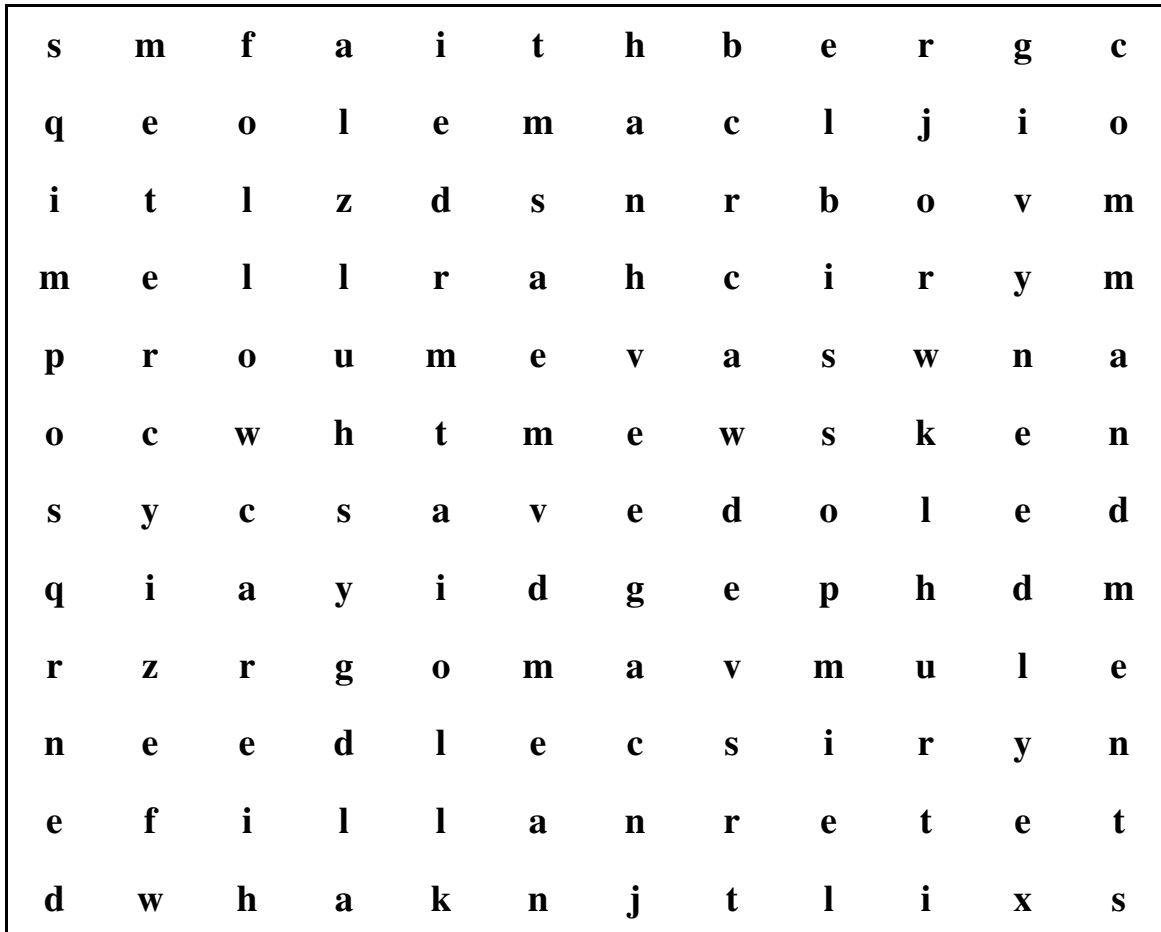


Jesus said to all of them,  
“If people want to follow me,  
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# Word Search

## The Rich Young Man

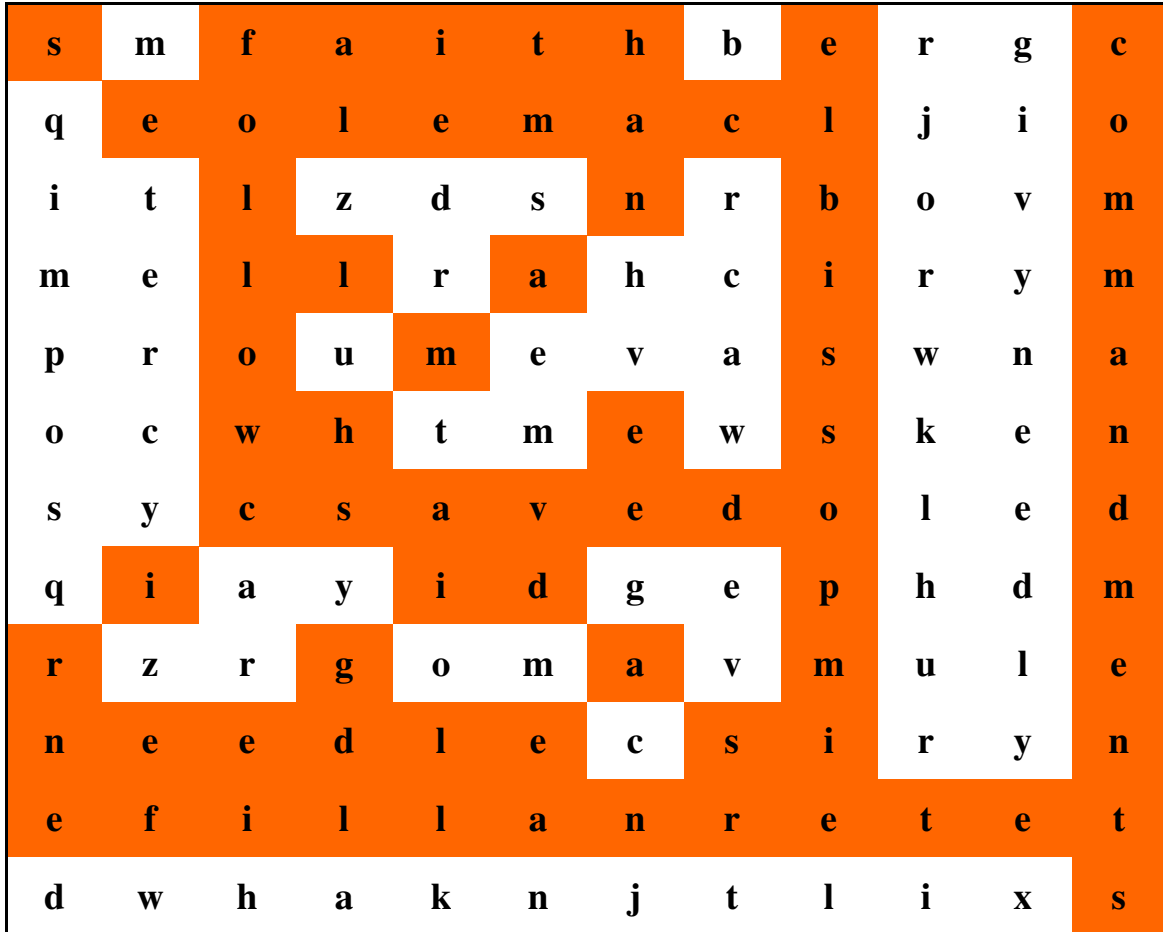


<b>eternal life</b>	<b>rich man</b>	<b>commandments</b>
<b>sell</b>	<b>give</b>	<b>follow</b>
<b>sad</b>	<b>camel</b>	<b>needle</b>
<b>impossible</b>	<b>faith</b>	<b>saved</b>



# Word Search

## The Rich Young Man



eternal life	rich man	commandments
sell	give	follow
sad	camel	needle
impossible	faith	saved

The rich man loved his

m \_ \_ n \_ \_ y

more than

GOD

We need to put Jesus

f \_ \_ r \_ \_ t in our lives.

