

SG Discussion Questions

for Personal Study and Small Groups 9/8/13

Heavenly Citizenship Matthew 19:13-30

Purpose of SG: to foster in its members the biblical values of worship (God), discipleship (church), and outreach (lost).

2013 Annual Focus: Drawing Near to the Good and Mighty King.

Announcements: (1) Hope Counselor training starts 9/15, (2) SGL Day Retreat is 9/21 from 9am-4:30pm at Durant Nature Park, and (3) Men's Retreat 10/4-6.

SG Discussion Questions:

Focus: To show that citizenship in heaven (salvation) cannot be obtained through human efforts.

Read Matthew 19:13-30.

What unbiblical thinking is revealed in the young man's question to Jesus in verse 16? What is his view of salvation? In what ways can we fall into a similar mindset?

Why did Jesus ask the young man to sell his possessions and give it to the poor (v. 21)? How is idolatry exposed? Spend some time discussing this call to radical allegiance by Jesus.

What would be difficult for you to give up if Jesus asked you to? What, if it were taken from you, could result in your turning away from God? (These can be bad things or good things: i.e. if you lost your child, would you turn away from God?)

Why were the disciples so shocked at Jesus' statements (vv. 23-25)? When you read verse 26, what is your response? How does it affect you?

How do rewards factor into salvation (vv. 21, 27-30)? When discussing salvation, does the concept of rewards trouble you? Why? Why doesn't it seem to trouble Jesus?

How would you answer the question, "How does a person become a citizen of heaven?" When was the last time you shared with someone else how to enter eternal life?