

# LIGHTHOUSE GROUP CURRICULUM

Matthew 19:16-30

## LEADER'S STUDY

### **God's law is all about relationship:**

God's law reveals His character and what relationship with Him and with others looks like. For the person who has experienced God's grace, His law is not burdensome it is joyful because it is fellowship with God. Following Jesus is not about obeying rules so that we get something from God. Instead, because of Jesus, we have already received everything from God. We are forgiven because of Him and we are righteous because of Him. Now we obey Him only out of love and gratefulness. God's law is HOW we have relationship with Him. When we know who He is and what he is like we see the law as how we can align ourselves with Him. His law shows us how to love what He loves and how to follow Him. Think about His law and commands. Do you see His law as burdensome or freeing? Because Jesus has fulfilled the law for you, how does this change your love for Him? How does it change your love for others? How is He calling you to live differently because of His grace?

How does the law reveal God's character? How is God inviting me to follow Him? How do my relationships with others reflect my relationship with God? Are my relationships leading others to know God and His grace? How is God changing my thinking? Be willing to share areas that He is calling you to "follow Him" and make clear I statements about how you are going to align with Him.

Some helpful scripture: Deut 6:4-9, Psalm 119, Ephesians 1, James 1:19-27, Matthew 5&6  
What other places in scripture speak this same truth?

How is God calling you to think and to live differently? How does this change your perspective today? How is God calling you to respond based on this scripture? Spend some time reading this whole chapter and meditating on it as you prepare for your meeting. Be willing to share this with your group and invite them to join you in sharing how God is asking them to respond to His word.

## PREPARING BEFORE GROUP

**PURPOSE:** Life transformation through the Holy Spirit. He uses scripture and prayer to renew our minds and transform our lives!

**PRAY:** Pray for the people in your groups by name. Spend time asking the Holy Spirit to help you lead well as you meditate on key passages and seek to know God's heart.

**PLAN:** As you prepare for your group things to remember:

- Relationships are the primary way we glorify God. Healthy deep relationships that lead each other to know and follow Jesus are built on trust.
- Share stories of how God is working in your heart and how you or others are taking steps of growth
- Start thinking and talking about how God might multiply your group

Start looking for leaders among your group. As you identify people who are gifted at recognizing the character of God in His word, or people who make relationships easy or those who are really prayerful or welcoming, invite them into opportunities to use those gifts in your group. It could be that your next co-leader is sitting right next to you!

# LIGHTHOUSE GROUP CURRICULUM

Matthew 19:16-30

## INTENTIONAL BIBLE READING

READ Matthew 19:16-30

This week try retelling the story in your own words with your bibles closed, then look to see what you missed, changed, moved or left out.

It might also be helpful to look at it in the ESV or similar word-for-word translation.

And also in the NLT to get a thought-for-thought perspective.

(With larger portions of scripture, it's good for multiple people to read it aloud. Especially online, this helps people get used to using their voice)

Try to summarize the passage in your own words.

## STUDY QUESTIONS

**What is significant, surprising or confusing from these verses?**

**What did you discover or learn about God and His character from this passage?**

**What seems to be the main point of these verses?**

**How does this scripture change your thinking?**

**Why did God bring me to this scripture today?**

**What parts of this passage are challenging to your current way of thinking?**

**What effect does this have on my relationships right now?**

## APPLICATION QUESTIONS

**How are you going to obey this passage?**

**What is your “I will” statement?**  
(Encourage everyone to steer clear of “we” or “us” or “Christians” statements)

**With whom are you going to share what you have learned?**  
(This is a critical part of growth that is often overlooked. If we can share it with someone else it means we really understand it, it cements it in our own minds, it makes us accountable to the truth and it blesses the one who hears the it. Rom 10:17)

**Based on this passage, what can we pray about and how should we pray?**