

# WEST RIDGE GROUPS

## Group Member Discussion Guide

*Week of September 24, 2023*

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### **CHECK-IN** (~20 minutes)

*How was your week?* What was the high part of your week? What was the low part of your week? What can we celebrate together?

### **MESSAGE SUMMARY**

This week we continued in our teaching series *What's Holding You Back?* In this message, Pastor Brian walked us through the passages of Mark 10:17-22 in which a rich young ruler comes to Jesus wanting to know how to inherit (earn) eternal life. Jesus tries to help this young man understand that you cannot inherit the Kingdom of God by doing anything on your own. Pastor Brian helped us understand the deceitfulness of riches and three lessons we must learn - the world around us is set on hijacking your affections, chasing the world will lead to some harsh realities, and we must live our lives for heavenly rewards.

### **GROUP DISCUSSION** (~50 minutes)

1. Thinking back to the message this week, was there anything that challenged you personally? Share your thoughts with the group.

2. *Read Mark 10:17-22*

In this passage a rich young man approaches Jesus and asks about inheriting eternal life. How does Jesus challenge the young man's understanding of riches and eternal life? What can we learn from this encounter about the true nature of wealth and its relationship to spiritual life?

3. Jesus instructs the rich young man to sell his possessions and give to the poor, highlighting the cost of discipleship. How does this passage reflect the idea that following Jesus requires radical commitment and sacrifice? How does this challenge our own perspectives on material possessions and commitment to Christ?

#### *4. Read Mark 10:23-27*

Jesus uses the metaphor of a camel and the eye of a needle to illustrate the difficulty of a rich person entering the kingdom of God. Remember back to Pastor Brian's message, it is not the simple fact that he has wealth, but what is the significance of this metaphor, and how does it contrast God's economy with the world's view on wealth and status?

#### *5. Read Mark 10:28-31*

Jesus promises rewards to those who leave everything to follow Him. What are these promises, and what do they reveal about God's blessings for those who prioritize the kingdom of God over earthly possessions? How does this encourage us to live a life of faith and devotion to Christ?

### **WRAP-UP (~10 minutes)**

It is important to be growing in our relationship with Jesus and one another - what is one next step you can take this week to grow? Share with the group and commit to holding one another accountable.

*What does it look like to hold each other accountable?* It can be as simple as a text or phone call during the week. Hebrews 10:25 encourages us to meet regularly and to encourage one another on a regular basis.

*Example:* "Hey \_\_\_\_\_, you indicated in group this week that you were struggling at work with being light in a dark place. You said that your next step was to start a conversation with someone at work this week around the topic of faith. How did that go?"

### **PERSONAL NOTES**

This week, my next step is:

This week I am going to check in on (name):

This week, my Bible reading will be (e.g. Philippians chapters 1-4):