## Gospels Study and Discussion Questions

Lesson Seven: Training of the Disciples, Part 2 - Matthew 18-20; Luke 12, 14, 16, 18

## Read Matthew 18:1 – 19:15.

- 1) Who would you identify as the "little ones" of Matthew 18:6, 10, and 14 (consider Matthew 10:42, 18:3, 25:40, 45)?
- 2) List the verses and truths in Matthew 18 that teach us something about the God of these little ones (even where the "little ones" are not mentioned).
- 3) According to the following verses, what qualities do members of the Kingdom of Heaven exhibit and which of these needs the most improvement in your own life?
  - **a)** 18:1-5?
  - **b)** 18:6-9?
  - c) 18:10-14?
  - **d)** 18:15-17?
  - **e)** 18:18-20?
  - **f)** 18:21-35?
  - **g)** 19:1-12?
  - **h)** 19:13-15?

## Read Matthew 19:16-30 with Matthew 8:18-22 and Luke 14:25-33.

- 4) What does Jesus demand of His disciples, according to each set of verses?
  - a) Matthew 19:21 (see Matthew 6:33 and Luke 12:33-34)
  - **b)** Matthew 8:20 (see Philippians 3:20 and 1 Peter 1:1)
  - c) Matthew 8:22 (see 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 and 2 Corinthians 6:1-2)
  - **d)** Luke 14:26 (see 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 and Luke 14:31, 33)
- 5) Reread Luke 14:27 with Matthew 16:24-26. What has it cost you to follow Christ?

	Reconsider Matthew	19:16-30 a	and read Luke	12:13-21.	16:1-13.
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6) What do you learn from these teachings of Jesus about the proper attitude toward wealth? 7) How does the culture in which you live influence you with regard to these principles? 8) Do you have a resource that you have mismanaged or "wasted" (failed to use for the benefit of the Kingdom)? What step could you take to be a more faithful and wise manager of what God has given you? Read Matthew 20:1-28. 9) Note Peter's question and Jesus' response in Matthew 19:27-30, which prompted the telling of the parable in Matthew 20:1-16. a) What is the main subject of the parable? **b)** How do the words that frame the parable (19:30 and 20:16) summarize it? c) How does the parable portray God (the Landowner)? **d)** Are those hired last given a greater reward than those hired first? By whose standard? e) How is Jesus' parable intended to re-educate us? 10) What attitude do leaders in the cause of Christ need to adopt, according to Matthew 20:20-28, and what example of this is given in Matthew 20:17-19, 28 and Philippians 2:3-11?

11) Regarding what circumstance or relationship do you need to think differently in order to be the kind of disciple Jesus commends in Matthew 20:26-27?
Read Luke 18:1-8.  12) According to Luke 18:6-8, how does the parable in Luke 18:2-5 relate to the subject given in verse 1?
<ul><li>13) According to Luke 18:1-8</li><li>a) For what were Jesus' disciples (verse 7) and the widow in the parable (verse 3) asking?</li></ul>
<b>b)</b> Whose faithfulness is in question, according to verses 6-8, God's or ours?
c) What is Jesus telling us about our heavenly Father?
<b>14)</b> Read 1 Thessalonians 5:17 and James 5:13a. What prayer have you continued to pray that seems unanswered?
15) The passages covered in this lesson emphasize various aspects of discipleship. Luke 14:27 summarizes our role, indicating that we are to carry our "cross" and follow Christ. How do the following passages further your understanding of discipleship and how will you respond (be specific)? Matthew 19:26, Romans 7:18-25a, Philippians 1:6, 2:13, 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24, and Hebrews 10:14