

## How to be a Loser

### Step Six: Don't Focus on Your Strengths

October 4, 2009

#### Matthew 19:13-26

<sup>13</sup> Then children were brought to him that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people, but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven."

And he laid his hands on them and went away.

<sup>16</sup> And behold, a man came up to him, saying, "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?" <sup>17</sup> And he said to him, "Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments." He said to him, "Which ones?" And Jesus said, "You shall not murder, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, <sup>19</sup>

Honor your father and mother, and, You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>20</sup> The young man said to him, "All these I have kept. What do I still lack?" <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." <sup>22</sup> When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

<sup>23</sup> And Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly, I say to you, only with difficulty will a rich person enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>24</sup> Again I tell you, 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." <sup>25</sup> When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?"

<sup>26</sup> But Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

## Discussion Questions

What are you an expert at?

Can you become so wrapped up in it that it causes you to block out or ignore other things around you?

What do you think the man was looking for? (approval, affirmation, new wisdom, etc.)

In what ways did the young man get it right?

In what ways did he get it wrong?

Why didn't Jesus just begin with the invitation to 'follow me'?

What is God asking us to do in this passage?

What is God not asking us to do in this passage?

What kind of things can get in the way of following Jesus?  
Is it possible to leave those things behind and follow Jesus?  
How?