

# all in

## Week 3: Identify Your Resources

### Gather Differently

It seems that the rich young man is the only recorded instance in the gospels of someone who came to Jesus with a need and who walked away without that need being met or fulfilled. Yet, if we are going to be honest about our relationships with Jesus and choose to go all in with Him, there are some things in our own lives that each of us are tempted to handle on our own and hide away from Jesus. It's even possible that we are simply unwilling to give up certain habits or possessions in order to follow Jesus wholeheartedly. We would do well to not evade these facts and instead face them head on.

### Grow Intentionally

Start by reading these passages:

Matthew 16:24-26

Luke 12:13-21

Luke 16:19-30

Revelation 3:14-22 (emphasizing verse 17)

- What is happening in each of these passages?
- What are things and possessions doing to those mentioned in these passages?
- What are the main messages of these passages?
- Take a closer look at Matthew 16. Jesus is clear about our need to die to our self.

He calls us to come and die, so that we can live. It's counter intuitive to the system around us. To use banking terms, Jesus calls us to divest in the desires of this world and our flesh and invest in Him. What are the worldly things you are currently invested in?

A look in Exodus 20:3 reminds us that nothing should come between God and Man. However, R. Kent Hughes has identified five life issues that can easily come between us and our relationship with Jesus. When we place or allow any of these categories to have equal footing or even to become a priority over Jesus, we've created the same obstacle to genuine faith that the rich young man grappled with.

These five life issues are: Possessions, Positions, Power, Persons and Passions (the five "P's").

- First, define these categories using words specific to your context for each one. What are the most distracting temptations for you with each area?
- Next, rank these five categories from 1 to 5 in most tempting (#1) to least tempting (#5) for you.

As you take inventory of the idols and the things that distract you from being all in with Jesus, consider the following litmus test described by Tim Keller. He describes four signs that might indicate you have a money issue:

- You can't give large gifts or sums away
- You get scared you might not have enough or able to maintain a certain amount
- You see people getting more or "doing better" than you and it gets under your skin
- You keep a scorecard on what you and others "have"

Pastor and author, Timothy Keller, suggests that we are spiritually blind to our own heart conditions. We need to be convinced of our own sin, sinful tendencies, and depravity. Not unlike the rich young man, we overplay the things that are "good" in us and hide, dismiss, or diminish the things that are not. In order to come clean and to go "all in," Keller indicates we need to take inventory and repent of how we use things.

Here are his questions:

- How have you used good things to replace God in your life?
- In what areas are you scared or unwilling to completely let go control of?
- In what ways or scenarios are you reluctant to go the extra mile, to generously give, or to selflessly serve?

## Go Missionally

**This entire series is about getting you to **MOVE** into action with your witness.**

Take a moment and reflect upon the following quote: *"If you desire Christ to be your True Savior and Lord then you have to replace what else you are looking for as a savior. We all have something or somethings that we hope will save us, what is yours?"* - Akin

What needs to move in your beliefs and behaviors to enable you to divest from this world and invest to be all in with Jesus?

- Is it your *head*? Do you need to work on trusting God's provisions?
- Is it your *heart*? Do you need to confess to valuing any of the five P's as equal to or above Jesus?
- Is it your *hands*? Do you need to commit to giving and serving the people and places around you more consistently?
- Is it a combination of all three? Be honest and write out your promptings.

Identify how & what you will sell and then contribute toward loving and serving your 3 people and places.