

May 01 | Sunday
The God of Second Chances:
“Rich Guys Who Got It Wrong”



02 | Mon – Hmm... | Read [Matthew 6:19-24](#); [Luke 16:10-15](#)

The Greek word for ‘money’ was used for all types of material goods. So Jesus is speaking of anything that is of great value to us. What do you treasure the most? Jesus did not say we *shouldn’t* serve both God and money, He said we *can not*. There is only room for one ultimate master. When you face ethical choices, what determines your course of action... the social/material payoffs or God’s values?

03 | Tue – Other people’s opinion | Read [John 3:1-19](#), [7:43-52](#)

Nicodemus was a Pharisee, well versed in the law. Knowing he could lose his reputation, he came to Jesus at night where he was jolted by Jesus saying the basis for judgement was that light came into the world but people loved darkness more than the light. Later Nicodemus weakly tried to defend Jesus at His trial without success. Has there been a time when being with your peers resulted in compromise?

04 | Wed – Getting a second chance | Read [John 19:38-42](#); [Luke 23:50-53](#)

At Jesus’ sham trial, at least two council members disagreed with the decision but kept silent. Romans often dumped crucified bodies in the trash but after Jesus’ crucifixion, Joseph offered an new tomb and Nicodemus brought 75 lbs of spices, both indicators of wealth. This took real courage and commitment. What do you think motivated them to “go public”? Does this encourage you when you need a second chance to stand for Jesus?

05 | Thu – Making the wise choice | Read [Mark 10:17-25](#)

An earnest young man came to Jesus asking how to obtain eternal life. Jesus, lovingly, identified this man’s fixation on wealth. Sadly he turned away, unwilling or unable to reset his priorities. This is not an indictment of being wealthy; it is about the difficulty of breaking money’s unhealthy grip on the human heart. Jesus compared it to squeezing a camel through the eye of a needle. Only God can see and free our hearts, if we allow it.

06 | Fri – A holy encounter | Read [Acts 7:55-8:3](#) and [26:1-18](#)

In Acts, Saul (Paul) moved from a bit player at a stoning to a deadly persecutor of Christians. Then a stunning encounter with the risen Christ changed his life. Facing Roman execution, does it sound like Paul was sad about ‘throwing away’ his promising career to follow Jesus? (See 2 Tim. 4:7-8) Has your commitment to Christ given you that sense of purpose Paul showed? If not, find a believer you respect and talk about it.

07 | Sat – Paul’s Resume | Read [Philippians 3:3-11](#); [1 Timothy 1:12-16](#)

After listing his impressive credentials, Paul then states they are worthless compared to the treasure of knowing Jesus and becoming like Him. He remembers clearly what his character was like before that encounter. While God often uses our education and skills to fulfill His purposes, it is important to depend more on God than those things. If you want more fulfillment and meaning, find out how God has gifted you and start serving there.

May 8 | Sun – The God of Second Chances: Moms Who Met With Jesus