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Series Theme: *Jesus reveals a Father who is worthy of your trust.*

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***When God isn't seen as good someone or something else will.***

*Matthew 19.17* And he [Jesus] said to him: *Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good...*

**ONE: When God is your good you'll abandon rebellion through rules**  
***Mat 19.1-12***

**TWO: When God is your good your significance will be from him.**  
***Mat 19.13-15***

**THREE: When God is your good possessions won't be your perfection .**  
***Mat 19.16-24***

**FOUR: When God in Christ is your good you'll enter the kingdom richly.**

***Matthew 19.25-30***

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**QUESTIONS FOR INTERACTION AND STUDY**

1. In Mat 19.3-12 the Pharisees are again seeking to trap Jesus over matters of their laws re: marriage and divorce. He pushes them back to God's purposes for both married and single. In what way(s) were they avoiding dealing with God by arguing over rules?
2. When you focus on rules and are quick to condemn yourself or others how does this keep you from seeing and loving God, his purposes and your neighbors?
3. How is focusing on God himself, his commitment to believers (Philippians 1.6) and his desire to use believers to encourage others (2Cor 5.14-15) a better aid to obedience than living by mere rules?
4. In Mat 19.13-15 we again see Jesus turning social status upside down. What realities can you daily rehearse to remind yourself you are as dependent as a child to parents?
5. In Mat 19.16-24 the man thinks he is inquiring about deeds (v.16) but Jesus reveals the issue for him to be his trust in his possessions for security and status (vv. 20-24). Jesus has previously taught in Mat 5.43-48 that perfection (19.21) is to love neighbors and enemies as God does in Christ.

What idols of earthly status, significance or pleasure most keep American believers from more fully leaving "houses or brothers or sisters, or father or mother or children or lands (v.29)"?

Not all are called to *physically leave* but each is called in word and deed to demonstrate he/she values Christ more than these. What concrete actions show that we value Christ's *kingdom to come/God's will being done on earth kingdom* more than this current age?