### Matthew

## Chapter 19

1Well after Jesus had finished saying these things, he left Galilee and traveled to the Judean border across the JorDan River, 2and because huge crowds followed along, he cured them there.  
  
3However, the Pharisees came to test him, asking:  
  
 ‘Is it legal for a man to divorce his woman on any grounds?’  
  
4And [Jesus] replied:  
  
 ‘You’ve read that the One who created them long ago made them male and female 5and said:  
  
 ‘This is why a man will leave his father and mother and join to his woman, making the two one flesh.’ [Genesis 2:24]  
  
 6‘So they’re no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, no man should split apart what The God has yoked together!’  
  
7And they said:  
  
 ‘Then, why did Moses say that we could give them divorce certificates and dismiss them?’  
  
8And he replied:  
  
 ‘Moses realized how hardhearted you would be, so he allowed you to release your women… But that hasn’t always been the way!  
  
 9‘I tell you that whoever divorces his woman except on the grounds of sexual immorality and marries another, is an adulterer!  
  
 ‘And whoever marries a released woman is an adulterer.’  
  
10Then [one of] his disciples said:  
  
 ‘If this is true of a man and his woman, then it’s probably best not to marry at all!’  
  
11And Jesus said:  
  
 ‘Yes, but this is something that not every man can do… Just those who have the gift. 12For there are eunuchs that were born that way, eunuchs that were made that way by men, and those who have made themselves eunuchs for the Kingdom of [God].  
  
 ‘So let those who can make room for it, make room for it!’  
  
  
13Well after that, [people] started bringing their young children to him so that he could lay his hands on them and offer a prayer, but the disciples started scolding them.  
  
14However, Jesus told them:  
  
 ‘Leave the children alone and don’t stop them from coming to me, because the Kingdom of [God] is for people just like this!’ [frequently mistranslated]  
  
15And after he laid his hands on them, he traveled on.  
  
  
16Then later, {Look!} someone came up to [Jesus] and asked:  
  
 ‘Teacher, what sort of good things must I do in order to receive age-long life?’  
  
17And [Jesus] replied:  
  
 ‘Why are you asking me about doing what’s good? There’s just One who is truly good… But if you want to enter into the life, just follow the Commandments!’  
  
18Then [the man] asked:  
  
 ‘Which ones?’  
  
And Jesus replied:  
  
 ‘You must not murder, you must not commit adultery, you must not steal, you must not testify falsely, 19you must honor [your] father and mother, and you must love your neighbor as yourself.’  
  
20And the young man said to him:  
  
 ‘Well, I’ve kept all these things… So what else am I lacking?’  
  
21And Jesus said to him:  
  
 ‘If you want to be perfect, go and sell all your belongings and give to the poor, then come follow me and you’ll have treasures in the heavens.’  
  
22However, after the young man heard this, he left very sad, because he owned many things.  
  
23So then Jesus said to his disciples:  
  
 ‘I tell you the truth: It’ll be difficult for a rich man to get into the Kingdom of [God]. 24Let me put it this way… It would be easier [to thread] a rope through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to get into the Kingdom of God.’  
  
25Well, the disciples were very surprised at hearing this, and they asked:  
  
 ‘Then, who can really be saved?’  
  
26And looking them straight in their faces, Jesus said:  
  
 ‘With men, this is an impossibility. However, all things are possible with God.’  
  
27But then Peter said to him:  
  
 ‘{Look} Since we’ve left everything to follow you, what will we really get?’  
  
28And Jesus replied:  
  
 ‘I tell you the truth: In the rebirth – when the Son of Man sits down on his glorious throne – you who’ve followed me will sit on 12 thrones and you’ll judge the 12 tribes of IsraEl.  
  
 29‘Also, anyone who has left a house, or his brothers, sisters, father, mother, children, or land for the sake of my name will receive many times more, and he will inherit age-long life.  
  
 30‘Yet, many that are the first will be the last, and the last will be the first.’