

Today we're going to deal with a myth about what most people say God expects from us.

This is a good topic for us to think and discuss as we will meet and know many people that believe this myth.

You've probably heard this a lot, and honestly it sounds good but according to the Bible it is just a myth.

What is the Myth: God just wants us to be good people

Opening Question: What does it mean to be a "good person"?

God does want us to be good, but we can't earn being good by our deeds. Only by giving up everything and having treasure in heaven can we be made good by God!

Read Luke 18:18-30

Question: Why did this man ask this question to Jesus?

Question: Why does Jesus say what he says?

Follow up question: Who is good? God alone

[Visual illustration: Have everyone stand up. Ask people to sit down as they hear a commandment they have broken at some point in their life. Read the commands in v.20

Whats the Point: The Rich Young ruler has kept these commands and was a great person, none of us can compare to him. He was all-star religious.

Question: What does Jesus tell the man he still lacks?

Question: How did the man respond?

Question: Where was this man's treasure?

Question: Why was his earthly treasure more important to him

Big Question: Why wasn't his good, good enough to be saved?

Key Point: When Jesus says with man this is impossible, he means it!

Question: So what do we do? How can we have treasure in heaven rather than earth?

Question: What might stop us from realizing our good deeds aren't enough?

Question: Why does God want your heart not your deeds?

Because none of us can measure up to God's goodness, our good deeds are like "filthy rags" before him (Isaiah 64:6). If we give our hearts he can clean us, if we give our deeds or hearts remain filthy

Conclusion: So much of the world says "I'm a good person" but compared to whom?

Our sin, even just one disqualifies us from being "good." But God is merciful and wants us to become "good" but only by coming to him and giving our entire hearts and being to him.

We can conclude that God just wants us to be good people from the scriptures is false. And we can't earn our salvation, but we can work to purify our hearts before God. Hopefully this discussion helps us when we hear it. One to not believe it for ourselves and two help others think more about this myth "God just wants us to be good people" and come to the biblical truth.

Let's approach him not thinking we are good but knowing that he is good and having faith that he alone can save us.