



Review: Everyone explain the Bridge to Life illustration with someone in the room.

What do you think it means to declare Jesus as Lord?

Matthew 19:16 (NIV)

Now a man came up to Jesus and asked, "Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?"

If someone asked you this question, how would you answer?

Matthew 19:17-18 (NIV)

¹⁷"Why do you ask me about what is good?" Jesus replied. "There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, obey the commandments." "Which ones?" the man inquired.

Why do you think Jesus answered this man's question by saying, "There is only One who is good"?

Psalms 14:3 (NIV)

All have turned aside, they have together become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one.

Matthew 19:18-22 (NIV)

¹⁸Jesus replied, "'Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, ¹⁹ honor your father and mother,' and 'love your neighbor as yourself.'"

²⁰"All these I have kept," the young man said. "What do I still lack?"

²¹Jesus answered, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

²²When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.

Which commands did Jesus leave out?



10 Commandments on Fingers:

1: One God

2: Scissors

3: W

4: Family going to church

5: Hand salute

6: Finger stabbing hand

7: Two leaving the other five at a party

8: Hide thumbs

9: Pinocchio's nose grew

10: Hands on top of fence

The first four commands relate to:

The last six commands relate to:

Why do you think Jesus left out these specific commands?

Why does Jesus respond by telling him to give away everything that he has to the poor and follow him?

Why did the young man walk away sad?

Does this mean we need to give away our all our money to the poor in order to go to heaven?



What might be some things we might be tempted to value more than God?

What might Jesus want to say to us in each of those examples?

If the man had been told simply to pray a prayer, asking for forgiveness for his sins, he would have likely done that and then walked away feeling he was now secure and going heaven. Would his assumption be correct?

Does this passage create any tension for you?

How can we be sure we trust Jesus as Lord?

Luke 6:46 (NIV)

Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?

Read the following scenarios and consider how Jesus challenges their perception of his Lordship.

Matthew 8:19-20 (NIV)

¹⁹Then a teacher of the law came to him and said, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go."

²⁰Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."

Why do you think the teacher might have been motivated to follow Jesus?

How might Jesus' response have made him think otherwise?

What are some of the costs we might face if we truly choose to call Jesus, Lord?



Matthew 8:21-22 (NIV)

²¹Another disciple said to him, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

²²But Jesus told him, "Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead."

What would have been so wrong with Jesus letting the man go and bury his father?

Matthew 10:32-39 (NIV)

³²"Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven. ³³But whoever disowns me before men, I will disown him before my Father in heaven.

³⁴"Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.

³⁵For I have come to turn "a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law--

³⁶a man's enemies will be the members of his own household.'

³⁷"Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸and anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Which phrases in this passage do you find hard to accept?

What point is Jesus stressing in the above passage?

Have any of you had to pay a price in your relationships because you chose to follow Jesus?

What does Jesus mean when he says to pick up your cross and follow him?

Why do we find it hard to surrender our lives to the rule of Jesus?

Two common reasons:

1) _____

2) _____



1 John 4:18 (NIV)

There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

How does trusting God's love drive out all fear?

Philippians 4:6-7 (NIV)

⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

In all of the above scriptures the question is raised, "What role will Jesus play in your life?"

To declare Jesus is Lord is to say that he is now the Owner of your life; he can do with it whatever he wishes. It is HIS! To declare Jesus is Lord requires a huge step of faith, trusting that he is HOLY, JUST, and that he LOVES you fully.

Philippians 2:9-11 (NIV)

⁹Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Everyone will eventually declare Jesus is Lord. The only decision we have to make is whether we will do it as his child or as one who has been in constant rebellion against him, forced to bow as his defeated enemy.

HOME STUDY:

Read Genesis 1-11

Genesis 1-11 covers the story of God's perfect creation, the fall of man, and reveals how our sinful nature consistently drives us further from God and destroys life as he intended it. For now feel free to scan over the genealogies when you come to them as the goal is simply to get a quick overview of the story.