

**WEEK TWO**  
**YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
**JESUS CONNECTION: THE RICH YOUNG RULER**  
**PARTICIPANT GUIDE**

**ICE BREAKER:** What is one rule that people should follow to be a good person?

**OPENING PRAYER:** Psalm 131 (NLT)

Lord, my heart is not proud; my eyes are not haughty. I don't concern myself with matters too great or too awesome for me to grasp. Instead, I have calmed and quieted myself, like a weaned child who no longer cries for its mother's milk. Yes, like a weaned child is my soul within me. Put your hope in the Lord— now and always. Amen.

**BRAINSTORM: Can you name the Big 10?**

Have the student brainstorm the 10 commandments without looking in the Bible or asking Google.

- How many were you able to list?
- How many did you get wrong?
- Which were you missing?
  
- Which of the Big 10 are easy to keep?
- Which are difficult?
- Which do you need to keep to be considered good by other people?
- Which can you get away with breaking, but still be good?
- What makes a person good person or a bad person?

**THE RICH YOUNG RULER: Luke 18:18-23**

18 Once a religious leader asked Jesus this question: "Good Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?"

19 "Why do you call me good?" Jesus asked him. "Only God is truly good. 20 But to answer your question, you know the commandments: 'You must not commit adultery. You must not murder. You must not steal. You must not testify falsely. Honor your father and mother.'"

21 The man replied, "I've obeyed all these commandments since I was young."

22 When Jesus heard his answer, he said, "There is still one thing you haven't done. Sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

23 But when the man heard this, he became very sad, for he was very rich.

- What question did this man ask Jesus?
- Did this young man keep most of the Big 10?
- Would most people consider him a good person? Why or why not?
- Would you think he is a good person?
- What did Jesus want this man to do?
- Why do you think he walked away?

**PRIDE. AMBITION. ARROGANCE.**

**READ: Psalm 131:1**

Lord, my heart is not proud [pride]; my eyes are not haughty [ambitious]. I do not get involved with things too great or too wondrous for me [arrogance].

**DISCUSS**

- How did this young man approach Jesus with a sense of pride, ambition, and arrogance?
- He is expecting Jesus to stroke his ego, praising him for his good life. Why was he disappointed with Jesus' response?
- What was the one thing he lacked? Was it more than a love for money? What do you think was the root of this man's unwillingness to surrender?
- How did his pride, ambition, and arrogance keep him from following Jesus? Why did he choose to walk away?
- What do you think his life was like after he left Jesus? Do you think he would have been happy or content in life?
- What do you think his life could have been if he obeyed and followed Jesus? How would he have discovered a calm heart and a quiet soul?

**MAKE IT PERSONAL:**

- How does pride, ambition, and arrogance keep you fully following God?
- How does pride, ambition, and arrogance affect our relationships with others?
- Do you consider yourself a good person?
- What might be the one thing that Jesus would ask you to do?
- Would you find it impossible to do? Why or why not?

**LUKE 18:27:** “What is impossible for people is possible with God.” – Jesus

You may think it is impossible, but God is continually working in your life. If you are put aside your pride, ambition, and arrogance and follow him first, he will help you. By putting your hope and trust in God you will not be led by your selfish desires and you will find a calm heart and quiet soul. – Dave Reiss

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Psalm 131 (NLT)

Lord, my heart is not proud; my eyes are not haughty. I don't concern myself with matters too great or too awesome for me to grasp. Instead, I have calmed and quieted myself, like a weaned child who no longer cries for its mother's milk. Yes, like a weaned child is my soul within me. Put your hope in the Lord— now and always. Amen.