



Icebreaker

How do you psych yourself up to do something difficult?

Conversation Starters

Matthew 19: 23-24 “I tell you the truth, it is very hard for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. 24 I’ll say it again—it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God!”

Galatians 5:21 Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

1. Do you worry about scripture like the two above? Do you wonder what Paul and Jesus meant when they said the Kingdom of God is difficult to enter or will not be inherited?
2. Watch Kurt’s teaching from the beginning to 10 minutes and 21 seconds. What do you think about the idea of our reference points having to do with our ability to access the Kingdom of God?
 - a. What are some different reference points you have set?
 - b. How do they impact your relationships with yourself, with other people and with God?
 - c. What do you allow to set your reference points? What is your reference point related to your car? Your house? Your wardrobe? Your family? Your finances?
3. Genesis 2:16, 3:4-5, 3:7, 4:3-5 Kurt made the case that the “death” of Adam and Eve from Chapter 2 to Chapter 3 of Genesis was due to a shift in their reference point. Their reference point shifted away from God, the entire shift was spiritual in nature and their physical lives may not have actually changed. What do you think about this idea? What does it mean for us?
4. In the New Testament Jesus and others proclaimed that the Kingdom of God has been made available, has drawn near, is at hand because of the presence of Jesus and the availability of the Holy Spirit of God. Kurt said, “We can return to referencing ourselves to God rather than to ourselves, regularly and in an ongoing way. JESUS expected the reference point could come back. The change will happen within us when we make room for the Spirit of God within us. His Spirit can become our Spirit.”
 - a. What do you think Kurt is talking about?
 - b. How would you or do you make God your reference point? How do you know when your reference point shifts? What are some practices you engage in or could engage in to reset your reference?
 - c. Why would a person want God to be their reference point at all?
 - d. How does a person make room for the Spirit of God within them?