

## HOPE SABBATH SCHOOL

### Discipleship – Part 8

#### With the Rich and Famous

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing a series of studies on discipleship. Our topic today: With the Rich and Famous.

Scripture Theme Song: Come to Me – Matthew 11:28-30

#### Prayer

- 1) Night-time conference with a wealthy and highly respected leader
  - a) John 3:1-2
  - b) Who do you think requested this nighttime meeting?
  - c) What do you think the rationale was for meeting under the cover of darkness?
  - d) What were “the signs” that Nicodemus was referring to that impressed him to seek an audience with Jesus? John 2:1-11, John 2:13-17
  - e) John 3:3-15
  - f) How would you summarize the way Jesus related to Nicodemus?
  - g) What was the essence of Jesus’ message for this influential leader?
  - h) What lessons can we learn from the example of Jesus when relating to influential leaders?
- 2) Daytime meeting a wealthy but despised tax collector
  - a) Matthew 9:9-13 (Luke 5:27-32)
    - i) Why didn’t Jesus opt to meet with Matthew under cover of darkness? Didn’t He realize that He would be criticized for interacting with “sinners”?
    - b) What lessons can we learn from the way Jesus related to Matthew and his friends about reaching out to people with less than perfect reputations?
- 3) Daytime meeting with a rich young ruler
  - a) Matthew 19:16-22
    - i) Why did Jesus ask this rich young ruler to sell everything that he had and give it to the poor?
    - ii) How did the disciples respond to the interaction of Jesus with the rich young ruler? Matthew 19:23-26
- 4) The story of a rich fool with a small barn
  - a) Luke 12:16-21
  - b) What is the most important lesson you need to learn from this story?
  - c) Are wealthy people more likely to trust in their riches than poor people?
  - d) How can we avoid the trap of trusting in our wealth rather than trusting in One who has blessed us?
- 5) Discussion questions
  - a) What examples come to mind of wealthy and/or influential people who have used their resources unselfishly for cause of Christ?
  - b) What special ministry can influential Christian leaders have to other leaders who will never be reached any other way?