

THE WHOPPER
Loosening Your Grip I
Luke 18:18-30

INTRODUCTION

- A. The lie of all lies.
- B. It is not the runnerUp of all lies.
 - 1. No, you didn't wake me up.
 - 2. I love your new dress.
 - 3. I was just kidding.

I. DOESN'T IT ALL DEPEND ON ME?

- A. It All Depends On Me.
 - 1. I'm indispensable.
 - 2. I'm irreplaceable.
- B. Costumes the Whopper Wears.
 - 1. **I'm** the only one who can do it.
 - 2. If anybody is going to care, it will have to be **me**.
 - 3. It's **my** job, and if **I** fail, then it won't get done.
 - 4. Nothing goes right unless **I'm** there.
- C. Do Some Things Depend on Me?
 - 1. My job depends on my performance ... other jobs available.
 - 2. My salvation depends on my actions ... God saves.
 - 3. Salvation of the world depends on me ... 1 Cor. 3:7.

II. KEEPING A CHECKLIST, Luke 18:18-20.

- A. A Story Within a Story.
 - 1. The inside story is that of the rich young ruler.
 - 2. The other story deals with the group within earshot.
- B. The Checklist.
 - 1. The list of commandments, vs. 20.
 - 2. One item (do not covet) omitted, vs. 22.
 - a. "Go and sell all your possessions."
 - b. 5 out of 5 is pretty good.
 - c. Even 5 out of 6 is not bad.
- C. The Bigger Problem.
 - 1. Luke 18:18, "*What must **I** do to inherit...*"
 - 2. Previous encounter found in Lk. 18:9.
 - a. Trusted on own righteousness.
 - b. Jesus exposed the whopper, Lk. 18:14.
 - 3. Dependence on self won't work.

III. WHAT MUST I DO?

- A. Receive the Kingdom as Children, Lk. 18:17.
 - 1. Children major in dependence.
 - 2. Having a checklist is not a show of humility.

- a. More of a show of independence.
 - b. What have I possibly missed?
- B. The Inconsistency.
 - 1. *“What must I do to inherit...?”*
 - a. How much do I owe?
 - b. How much more work do I need to do?
 - c. How much more can I give up?
 - 2. Rich young man asked to quit depending on self.
 - 3. The “whopper” affects us the same way.

CLOSING

- A. It All Depends on God.
 - 1. Luke 18:27
 - 2. Jesus crushes the “whopper.”
- B. Luke 18:28
 - 1. Peter speaks out, *“We’ve left all for you.”*
- C. Our Insurance Policy.
 - 1. Luke 18:29-30 – receive many times more...
 - 2. *“At this time...”*
 - 3. *“And in the age to come, eternal life.”*