



Week of October 14, 2018

Mark 10:17-31

¹⁷ As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

¹⁸ Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone.

¹⁹ You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'"

²⁰ He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth."

²¹ Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."

²² When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

²³ Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!"

²⁴ And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God!

²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."

²⁶ They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?"

²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

²⁸ Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you."

²⁹ Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news,

³⁰ who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age-- houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions-- and in the age to come eternal life.

³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."



Group Leader

Remember: you don't need to use all of the questions. Go with what works. Give people a chance to think before answering, but if a question falls flat, move on. Let the discussion go where it needs to go, as long as it remains centered around the lesson. Give the participants page 1. Use this page for yourself.

Gathering questions:

- A. Describe a time when something you decided to do turned out to be a lot harder than you thought it would be.
- B. What grade would you give yourself at life?

Bible Study Questions:

1. In verse 18, why do you think Jesus begins his response to the man with the words "Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone." ?
2. In the various Gospel accounts of this story, the person is variously described as a "rich man" (this passage), a "rich young man" (Matthew 19), and a "ruler" (Luke 18). How do these descriptions change your perception of the story?
3. What do you think would have happened if the rich man had made a counter-offer to Jesus, such as "What if I give half of my goods away?"
4. In verse 21, Jesus gives the man an instruction that is too much for him. If you met Jesus, what would you be most afraid that he would require of you? How is that fear a window into your soul?
5. Verses 23-27 speak of the difficulty for the wealthy to enter the kingdom. Why is wealth singled out by Jesus?
6. In verse 28, Peter begins to brag about what he and the others have sacrificed to follow Jesus. What have you sacrificed to follow Jesus? What might you sacrifice?
7. In what area of your life are you simply needing to try harder or set a higher standard for yourself to become a better follower of Jesus?

Closing prayer: particularly invite prayers about greater obedience to Jesus.