

FOLLOWING JESUS REQUIRES EMPTYING YOURSELF

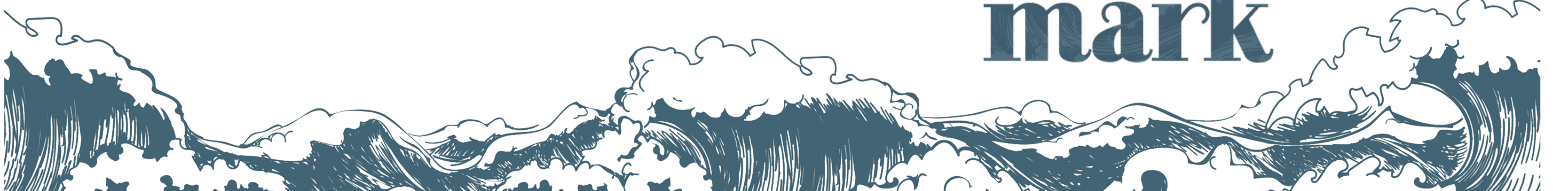
We inherit eternal life by _____ Jesus. (vs. 17, 21)

Following Jesus requires first _____ yourself. (vs. 17,-22)

Following Jesus is made _____ by God. (vs. 23-27)

Following Jesus brings the _____ of a full life. (vs. 28-31)

mark



Mark 10:17-31

^[17] And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ^[18] And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. ^[19] You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'" ^[20] And he said to him, "Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth." ^[21] And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." ^[22] Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

^[23] And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" ^[24] And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how difficult 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 a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." ^[26] And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, "Then who can be saved?" ^[27] Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God." ^[28] Peter began to say to him, "See, we have left everything and followed you." ^[29] Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, ^[30] who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. ^[31] But many who are first will be last, and the last first." (ESV)

Following Jesus Requires Emptying Yourself

February 27, 2022



Open: If you had an opportunity to ask Jesus any question, what might you ask?

Read & Discuss: Mark 10:17-31

1. In verse 17, a man approaches Jesus and says, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" How do you think Jesus' response differed from what this man was expecting? Why do we tend to want eternal life to come as a result of something we "do"?
2. In light of the surrounding context, why does Jesus respond as he did in verse 21? How is what Jesus says here true even for us today? What competing affections might Jesus need to address in you had you been the one approaching him in this story?
3. Why did having great possessions cause this man to leave "disheartened" (v. 22)? What did Jesus mean when he said, "How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God" (v. 23)? How does this warning impact how you view your wealth?
4. What are some reasons people today choose to not follow Jesus? What obstacles did God help you overcome in order to help you decide to follow Jesus?
5. Jesus' statement in verse 27 is often applied in broad terms to any need we may encounter, but how would you explain what Jesus meant by this statement in context? How should this truth shape our hopes regarding those who seem hardened toward the Gospel?
6. In verse 28, Peter responds to Jesus by saying, "See, we have left everything and followed you." What do you think Peter's motivation was in saying this? Was this appropriate? Why or why not? How do we act or speak in similar ways today?
7. In verse 29-30, Jesus makes great promises to those who follow Him. How do you think Jesus meant these promises would be fulfilled? How have you experienced some of these blessings in your own life so far? What might you say to someone who is still wondering if following Jesus is worth whatever sacrifices may come with making that decision?

Apply: What might you be holding on to that is keeping you from following Jesus wholeheartedly? How should Jesus' promises here encourage you to let go of anything you have treasured more than Christ?

Pray: Ask God to help us believe his great promises—and to then live in light of those promises.

Mark 10:17-31

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