

Are you wondering what it means to be a Christian?

Jesus said, "All that the Father gives me will come to me, and the one who comes to me I will never drive away" (John 6:37). Jesus also said, "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:44).

If you are feeling drawn to Christ, it is because God the Father is drawing you; it is not a desire we can or will create within ourselves. This also means that there is no sin too great to be forgiven, and no past too sinful to be overcome. You can trust Christ to receive you because it is God the Father who is drawing you to find true repentance and receive the gift of faith. You can know a new life in Jesus Christ.

We would love to talk and pray with you about this or any other spiritual needs you may have. Please see Pastor Mark or one of our elders after today's service to do so.

Are you interested in Baptism or Church Membership?

Please indicate your interest on the back of your Connection Card and Pastor Mark or one of the elders will be in touch with you this week to set up a time to meet with you.

THE PARADOXES OF GOD'S SERVANT (Part 1)

Mark 10:1-31

Main Thought: In Mark 10:1-31, Jesus gives us three paradoxes which inform our understanding of what it means to live by Kingdom values.

1. TWO SHALL BE _____. (vv 1-12)
 - 1) A question regarding _____ (vv 1-5)
 - 2) Instruction regarding the nature of _____ (vv 6-12)
 - (1) Marriage is a _____ ordinance
 - (2) It's _____, Disruptive, Permanent, Sexual
 - (3) Divorce and _____
2. _____ SHALL BE AS CHILDREN. (vv 13-16)
 - 1) Our Lord's Elevation of _____
 - 2) To enter the _____ of God we must:
 - (1) Have _____ like a child.
 - (2) Be _____ like a child.
 - (3) Receive it as a _____ of God.
3. THE FIRST SHALL BE _____. (vv 17-31)
 - 1) A question about _____ life (vv 17-22)
 - 2) Riches and the _____ of God (vv 23-31)

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH GROUPS

1. In prayer ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and reveal God's truth to you as you read Mark 10:1-31.

2. What do you learn about Jesus from this passage?

3. What do you learn about human beings and yourself from this passage?

4. Is there anything you didn't understand in the passage? Were you able to find an answer for your question(s)? If so, what did you discover?

5. What lessons do you learn from this passage and how will you apply them to your life this week?

Digging Deeper:

6. Why did the Pharisees question Jesus about divorce? What was their motivation? What was the background to their question?

7. Why did the Mosaic Law allow divorce? (10:4-5) What's an example of "hardness of heart"?

8. How does Jesus see God's original intention for marriage in the creation story? (10:6-7; Genesis 2:24; Ephesians 5:31)

9. What is the significance of "one flesh"? (10:8-9; Gen 2:24)

10. Why would invalid divorce cause adultery? (10:10-12)

11. How can we apply these principles honestly in our very broken world without being either overly sloppy or overly legalistic?

12. What is the point of comparison between welcoming children and people entering the kingdom? What does this teach us about faith? (10:13-16)

13. Who do we learn about the man in verses 17, 20, and 22? What did he mean "inherit eternal life"? (10:17)

14. Why does Jesus question his relative use of the adjective "good"? (10:17-18)

15. Why does Jesus require the man to sell everything and give it to the poor? (10:21)

16. Why is salvation virtually impossible for the rich? (10:23-27)

17. What does Jesus promise those who give up things for Him and his gospel? (10:28-30)

18. How will the "first" be last, and vice versa, in the Kingdom? (10:31)