

## MARK 10:17-31

<sup>17</sup>As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him.

"Good teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" <sup>18</sup> "Why do you call

me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good – except God alone. <sup>19</sup> You know the

commandments: 'You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not

steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and

mother.'" <sup>20</sup> "Teacher," he declared, "all these I have kept since I was a boy." <sup>21</sup> Jesus

looked at him and loved him. "One thing you lack," he said. "Go, sell everything you

have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

<sup>22</sup> At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth. <sup>23</sup> Jesus

looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom

of God!" <sup>24</sup> The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, "Children,

how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup> It is easier for a camel to go through the

eye of a needle than for the rich to enter the kingdom of God." <sup>26</sup> The disciples were even

more amazed, and said to each other, "Who then can be saved?" <sup>27</sup> Jesus looked at them

and said, "With human beings this is impossible, but not with God; all things are

possible with God." <sup>28</sup> Then Peter spoke up, "We have left everything to follow you!"

<sup>29</sup> "Truly I tell you," Jesus replied, "no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or

mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel <sup>30</sup> will fail to receive a

hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields – along with persecutions and in the age to come eternal life. <sup>31</sup> But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

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## EXPLORING THE PASSAGE

- What do you observe about the man who comes to Jesus? What does he want from Him?
- What is the one thing he lacks? How is this connected to Jesus' command: "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me"?
- Why is it difficult for the rich to enter the kingdom of God?
- What promises does Jesus make in this passage? In what ways is this good news for you?
- Can you think of a time when Jesus called you to do something difficult? Why do you think He called you to it? What did you learn about Him as you chose to obey?
- Summarize the main point of this passage in one or two sentences. What is God's personal word to you from this text, and how will you respond?