

October 1st, 2023 – Red Letters: Gospel of Mark (part 35)

This guide is designed to give helpful hints in preparing for your group discussion.

Quick Review

Look back from your sermon notes – Was there anything that particularly challenged you from this sermon? Anything you didn't understand, agree with or connect with?

Introduction

Think about the different stages of your life: childhood, high school, college, young adult, marriage, etc. In different stages of your life, what did you think was the most important question in life was? How did that question change as your perspective in life changed? What about as a Christ-follower?

Digging In

Question 1: Read Mark 10:13-17. Jesus is approached by this man who asks him the question, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” This man is asking the right question, to the right person, Jesus! How can this man ask Jesus this question? **Read John 4:25-26, John 8:58.** Jesus throughout the New Testament tells people who he is, God in human form.

Question 2: Read Mark 10:18-20. Jesus once again goes back to the heart of this man's real question. He calls Jesus “Good teacher.” Jesus points him to the true definition of “good” and that is perfection. Why do you think Jesus has him look back at the Old Testament law? What do you think Jesus is trying to get this man to see? How does Jesus connect this idea to the question of “what must I do” to receive salvation?

Question 3: Read Mark 10:21-22. Jesus shows this man the true cost of following Jesus. He tells the man he lacks “one thing” and that was to go sell all he had. Why do you think that was Jesus' response to the rich man? How is Jesus challenging this man's heart? Notice the motivation behind Jesus' question at the beginning of verse 21, “looking at him, loved him...”

Question 4: Read Mark 10:23-27. How does Jesus' statement in verse 27 help you understand what happens in salvation for you? Why was salvation impossible for man to obtain? **Read Ephesians 2:1-5.** Jesus is once again reinforcing the idea that salvation could not happen without God doing something on behalf of man.

Praise / Prayer Requests

Pray for your group with these things in mind:

Adoration – How can I praise God for what this teaches me?

Confession – What sin can I confess because of what this teaches me?

Thanksgiving – How can I thank God for what Jesus has done?

Supplication – What do I need to ask of God in order to grow in light of this?