



JUST JESUS: A Journey Through Mark PART 38 - 10:23-31

The Danger of Self-Sufficiency

READ: Mark 10:23–24 AND Deuteronomy 8:11–18

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Jesus says it is hard to enter the kingdom of God. Based on these verses, why does self-sufficiency make kingdom entry difficult?
- 2) In Deuteronomy 8, God warns Israel about forgetting Him when life becomes comfortable. Where do you see similar spiritual dangers in our culture today?
- 3) Pastor G said, "The issue isn't that God resists the wealthy, but that wealth often resists God." What do you think about that statement? How does it sit with you personally?
- 4) What are some non-financial ways people can drift into self-reliance instead of dependence on God?

Impossible for Us, Possible with God

READ: Mark 10:25–27 AND Ephesians 2:1–9

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Why do you think Jesus intentionally uses an image of impossibility (a camel and a needle) instead of just saying salvation is "very hard"?
- 2) According to Ephesians 2, what role do human effort and God's grace each play in salvation?
- 3) Pastor G said, "Jesus doesn't lower the standard; He changes the source." How does that reframe the way you think about salvation?
- 4) Where do you most feel the temptation to believe you need to "contribute something" to be acceptable to God?

What About Those Who Left Everything?

READ: Mark 10:28–30 AND Hebrews 10:32–36

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Why do you think Peter speaks up at this moment? What fear or question is sitting underneath his words?
- 2) Hebrews talks about joy mixed with suffering. How does that help us interpret Jesus' promise of "a hundredfold... along with persecutions"?
- 3) Pastor G said, "Peter is still framing discipleship in terms of cost, not yet grace." Do you see that tendency in yourself?
- 4) How have you seen God provide community, purpose, or meaning in ways that don't fit a simple "reward" formula?

First, Last, and the Posture of the Kingdom

READ: Mark 10:31 AND Philippians 2:3–11

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) What does Jesus mean by "first" and "last" in this verse? How is He redefining success?
- 2) How does Philippians 2 show Jesus modeling the upside-down values He teaches here?
- 3) Pastor G said, "The kingdom of God cannot be earned, managed, secured, or controlled. It can only be received." How does that challenge the way we usually measure spiritual maturity?
- 4) What might it look like for you this week to loosen your grip and come to God with a more childlike posture?

