

11

Mark 10

—— Questions for the Teacher

As Jesus journeys toward Jerusalem and his predicted death, five different groups or individuals approach him with requests. What questions does he answer? Which requests does he grant?

Read Mark 10:1-12

1. When the Pharisees ask Jesus their test question, how does Jesus explain Moses' treatment of divorce?

Note: Moses' teaching was not to provide opportunity to divorce but to curb a bad situation and to provide some rule and order in this matter.

2. What does Jesus emphasize as God's plan for marriage?

Why is fidelity the chief virtue of the marriage relationship?

3. In Jesus' further teaching to the disciples, how do you know that he does not set a different standard for men and women (verses 10-12)?

Read Mark 10:13-16

4. Why would the disciples rebuke those bringing children to Jesus?

How does Jesus use this incident to teach his disciples about the kingdom of God?

What does it mean to ***receive ... like a little child?***

Read Mark 10:17-31

5. What do you learn about this man in verses 17-22?
6. How may Jesus' claim (verse 18) be a challenge to the man's estimate of himself?

From the man's claim in verse 20, what does he think of himself?

7. For the list of commandments to which Jesus refers, read Exodus 20:3-17. Notice the commandments in Exodus 20 that Jesus does not mention in Mark 10. The commandments not mentioned concern what relationship?

The commandments mentioned in Mark 10 concern what relationship?

8. What does the man's failure to obey Jesus' two commands reveal about the one thing he lacks (verse 21)?

What is his god?

9. The disciples are startled by Jesus' statement because the Jews of that day believed wealth was an indication of God's favor and blessing. Why would Jesus declare riches to be a hindrance to entering the kingdom of God?
10. When Peter declares that he and the other disciples have done what the rich man would not do, what assurance does Jesus give him (verses 28-31)?

How are the promises in verses 29 and 30 being fulfilled in the lives of people today?

Read Mark 10:32-34

11. What new details does Jesus give concerning the coming events that he did not give in Mark 8:31 and 9:31?

Read Mark 10:35-45

12. Compare what Jesus has on his mind (verses 32-34) with what concerns James and John (verses 35-41).

Why does Jesus answer their request as he does (verses 38-40)?

13. What shows that the attitude of the other disciples is no better than that of James and John? Compare verse 41 with 9:34.
14. What contrasting ideas of greatness does Jesus describe in verses 42-44?
15. Why is it essential for Jesus' disciples then and now to understand true greatness in the spiritual realm?

16. Verse 45 is considered the key verse of the Gospel of Mark. How does what you have studied this far in Mark illustrate the first half of verse 45?

What does this verse reveal for the first time in Mark's account about the purpose of Jesus' death?

Read Mark 10:46-52

17. How does Bartimaeus's request (verses 47-48) compare with the request of James and John (verse 37)?

*Note: **Mercy** is the outward manifestation of pity or compassion; it assumes need on the part of the one who receives it, and resources adequate to meet the need on the part of the one who gives it.*

18. How does Jesus respond to Bartimaeus's request for mercy?

Why can you have confidence that God always welcomes a prayer for mercy?

How have you experienced mercy in response to your prayers?

19. What do you think Jesus is looking for when asks Bartimaeus specifically what he wants?

SUMMARY

1. How does Jesus answer those who put confidence in a legalistic approach to life (verses 2-9)?
2. What is Jesus' challenge to those who put their confidence in material things (verses 17-22)?
3. What is Jesus' teaching to those who put their confidence in earthly position and power (verses 35-45)?

CONCLUSION

The only people in this chapter who receive what they ask from Jesus are the children and Bartimaeus. The children desire his touch, Bartimaeus his mercy. We may have confidence in Jesus' answer if we bring these same requests to him.