

Lesson 17- Mark 10

In this lesson, Jesus and his disciples are getting closer and closer to Jerusalem.

1. Read Mark 10:1-12 and footnotes.

a. The Pharisees are again testing Jesus. What question do they ask him this time?

b. Read Deuteronomy 24:1-4 below. Did Moses command divorce or allow it?

Deut. 24:1-4 If a man marries a woman who becomes displeasing to him because he finds something indecent about her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce, gives it to her and sends her from his house, ² and if after she leaves his house she becomes the wife of another man, ³ and her second husband dislikes her and writes her a certificate of divorce, gives it to her and sends her from his house, or if he dies, ⁴ then her first husband, who divorced her, is not allowed to marry her again after she has been defiled.

c. How did Jesus describe Moses' position on divorce?

d. What was God's plan for men and women from the beginning?

e. Read Matthew 19:7- 9 below. In what situation did Jesus allowed divorce according to Matthew 19:7-9? (compare this to Mark 10:9)

Matt. 19:7-9 "Why then," they asked, "did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?" ⁸ Jesus replied, "Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. ⁹ I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

2. Read Mark 10:13-16 and footnotes.

a. Reflection: In what ways do children think differently than adults?

b. Why were people bringing their children to Jesus? (10:13)

c. 3. How did the disciples react to this situation? (10:13)

d. 4. How was Jesus different from the disciples?

3. Read Mark 10:17-22 and footnotes.

a. A young man approached Jesus. What do we know about this man? (10:17-22)

b. In 10:19, what instruction does Jesus give the man?

c. Compare Matthew 19:21 below to Mark 10:21.

How are they different? Is the meaning the same in these verses?

Matthew 19:21 ²¹ Jesus said to him, "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to [the] poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

d. Do we really know what the young man decided to do next?

e. Could there be more than one reason for his reaction to Jesus in Mark 10:21?

4. Read Mark 10:23-31 and footnotes. Share any helpful footnotes.

a. Reflection. Why is it difficult for the wealthy to get into heaven?

b. Deuteronomy 28 was interpreted to mean that if you have wealth, it is a sign that you were blessed by God, and this was the belief for 1st century Jewish-Christians. With this in mind, does this explain the disciples' amazement at Jesus' teaching about wealth?

c. In Mark 10:30-31, Jesus suggests a new way of judging righteousness at final judgement. Will those blessed with wealth in this world, necessarily be first when they face Jesus on judgment day?

5. Read Mark 10:32-34. Note how the teaching on wealth and judgment has affected those following Jesus.

a. Why do you think Jesus took the Apostles aside to give them, again, the prediction about his passion and death?

b. Compare translations with your group for 10:34. Who is it that Jesus says will mock him and kill him? (10:34)

6. Read Mark 10:35-45 and footnotes. Share any helpful footnotes.

a. What is it that John and James are asking for?

b. How is Jesus' reply in 10:39 different from what they were asking for?

c. Mark 10:45-45 reveals an important theme in Jesus' ministry. How do these verses explain how the Kingdom of God is different from the Kingdoms of Man

7. Read Mark 10:46-52 and footnotes.

a. How does Bartimaeus address Jesus?

b. What does he want from Jesus?

c. How does Jesus heal him?