



“Open Hands, Full Hearts”

October 10

Discussion Questions

1. What might it look like practically to sell or give away all one's possessions to follow Jesus in today's society? Have you ever known anyone who has done so?
2. How did this passage make you feel?
3. What are some things other than money and possessions that can become idols standing in the way of us following Jesus?
4. What's the connection between this story of the rich man and Jesus' teaching on receiving the kingdom like a little child from last week?
5. What do you think it means to receive a hundred times as much in this present age?

Mark 10: 17-31

¹⁷ 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?'

¹⁸ 'Why do you call me good?' Jesus answered. 'No one is good – except God alone. ¹⁹ 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, honour your father and mother."¹⁸'

²⁰ 'Teacher,' he declared, 'all these I have kept since I was a boy.'

²¹ 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.'

²² At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

²³ Jesus looked round and said to his disciples, 'How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!'

²⁴ The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, 'Children, how hard it is²⁴ to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.'

²⁶ The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, 'Who then can be saved?'

²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.'

²⁸ Then Peter spoke up, 'We have left everything to follow you!'

²⁹ '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 ³⁰ 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. ³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last first.'