

An Invitation To The Good Life

“Case For Christ”, part 35, Insights from Mark 10:13-31
Pastor Bob Johnson, September 25th, 2022, GPC

What do we know about this man:

- R (Luke 18:23)
- Y (Matthew 19:22)
- R (Luke 18:18)

What else can we know: We are ...

What does the Bible say about ...

(2 Cor. 8:1-5; 9:6-12, 1 Tim. 6:16-19, Prov. 3:9-10; 21:20, Phil. 4:14-19)

Three Do's: S_____ , R_____ , T_____

Three Don'ts: L_____ , H_____ , B_____

How to Hunt For Idols:

(Luke 18:23-25, Matthew 6:19-24, James 1:16-17, 1 Timothy 6:17)

An idol is usually a G_____ thing that becomes a G_____ thing.

- 1) What am I ...
- 2) What am I ...
- 3) What would ...

Two Truth Handles:

- **When it comes to blessings in our lives ...**
- **When it comes to God in our lives ...**

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This Week's Discussion Guide

Welcome to our fifth week of our Fall Small Group Season at GPC! Our study and discussion this fall will be based on our current Sunday series at GPC called, "Case For Christ".

In this series, we are slowly unpacking the Gospel of Mark. Each week we will read and reflect on a passage from Mark's gospel and discuss ways we can apply what we reflect on to our daily lives.

It is our prayer at GPC for our Sundays and small groups to provide the encouragement we all need to support each other as we desire to grow closer to God and build friendships as part of our vision at GPC to raise up committed Christ followers in a healthy church community.

Getting Started:

Each week, we typically start out with a few lighter questions to get us warmed up :).

In Mark 10, Luke 18 and Matthew 19, we are able to learn some about the 'rich, young, ruler'.

Speaking of learning something about others, what is one thing most likely, not too many in our small group know about you?

The "Three Do's" when it comes to money that was shared last Sunday was sacrificially give, regularly save and thoughtfully spend.

Speaking of saving, what is something you chose to save for when you were young or more recently? Looking back, was it worth taking the time to save and wait for it?

We would all agree that 'thoughtful spending' is better than impulsive spending. Most likely we have all not always been so thoughtful when it comes to our actions or our spending.

What is something you did or purchased impulsively?

What was it that attracted you to go for it without thinking too much about it?

If you could have that choice back, would you have chosen to do it again or go in a different direction?

Reviewing and Reflecting on last Sunday's Passage:

Let's read the main passage from last Sunday. (Mark 10:13-31)

After reading this passage and looking back on our notes from Sunday, was there a particular thought, verse or comment that caught your attention, challenged you or raised a question for you?

Digging Deeper:

1. Like the guy Jesus met in Mark 10, for many, it is hard to ask for assistance! Throughout his ministry, Jesus makes it very clear that we won't get to heaven without his help. Similar to the 'rich young ruler', it is quite common to try and earn one's way to heaven by good works. As a refresher, let's go over a summary of the gospel that summarizes the importance of stop trying to earn our way to heaven and remind ourselves what Jesus did to solve our sin problem and the importance of accepting him as our Savior to forgive us and Lord to lead us.

Genesis 1:27, Isaiah 53:6, Romans 3:23, Isaiah 59:2, Romans 6:23, Ephesians 2:8-9, Romans 5:8, John 3:16, 1 Peter 3:18, John 1:12, Romans 10:9, Romans 10:13, 1 John 5:11-13

2. One of the passages that was referenced last Sunday Luke 16:13 where Jesus said, "No one can serve two masters". Last Sunday we were reminded that God will only be God in our lives. The only invitation God will accept is to be invited to be Lord or King of our lives. Once we make that Lordship decision, the challenge is to not let other 'good things' become God things.

In the past or present, what good things have attempted successfully or unsuccessfully to become the dominant focus of your life for a period of time? As the service wrapped up, did God identify for you what you need to let go of or lessen the influence of in your life? How did it feel when you offered something specific or your life in general afresh to God?

3. This past Sunday we heard that getting rid of the 'idols' in our life does not mean to diminish our pursuit of success or significance. In fact, our drive to be successful is part of how God has made us. How do the following passages reinforce this reality?

Proverbs 14:23-24, Ecclesiastes 10:10, Colossians 3:23-24, Ephesians 2:10

4. How do the following verses help us evaluate our pursuit of success and ensure that we're keeping our priorities in order?

Philippians 3:7-14, Philippians 4:10-13, Proverbs 3:3-4, Matthew 22:34-39

Reflecting on the above passages, are there any adjustments you need to make?

4. There is no question our 'idol issues' can go far beyond our finances and material possessions. Yet, money and materialism are often idols that trip us up. How do the following verses help us keep our perspective of money and wealth in balance?

Deuteronomy 8:18, Ecclesiastes 5:19, Luke 12:15, 1 Timothy 6:17-18

Do you need to make any changes in your attitude toward money and the pursuit of it?

Wrapping Up:

What is an application from what we read or discussed together that you would like to practice in the coming days? Is there anything that came up from this week's sermon or discussion that you would like prayer for? Is there anything else on your heart that you would like to express prayer for?