

LIFE OF A SERVANT**Three Matters of the Heart Mark 10:1-31**

“All things are possible with God” Mark 10:27

Day 1: Read Mark 10:1–12.

1. What is Jesus’ custom whenever he meets a crowd? (vs. 1) What do you think he teaches them? (Mark 1:14f)
2. Consider the scenario the Pharisees have crafted to test Jesus. What are they trying to get him to say, and why?
3. Rather than the “yes or no” response the Pharisees seek to extract from Jesus, what is the amazing answer he gives?
4. How would you say Jesus’ way of looking at the divorce issue is different from the Pharisees’ way? What does Jesus look at that has escaped their attention?

Day 2: Read Mark 10:1–12.

5. Considering Jesus’ statement in verse 5, comment on the proposition that “whatever is legal is moral.” Would you agree or not? Discuss whether there are some things that are technically permissible for you but that may nevertheless be displeasing to God.
6. What does Jesus include in the category of adultery? (vss.11–12)
7. What exception does Jesus allow? (See the account of the same incident in Matthew 19:3–9)
8. What other exception does the apostle Paul, by the Holy Spirit, give to us? (1 Corinthians 7:15)

Day 3: Read Mark 10:13–16.

9. Why do you suppose the disciples rebuke people for bringing their children to Jesus? How is their attitude a worldly one?
10. What do you think it is about little children that Jesus loves so, such that he commands us to be like a child if we want to enter the kingdom?

Day 4: Read Mark 10:17–31.

11. A man asks Jesus what he must do to inherit eternal life. You and I know that nothing we “do” is good enough to merit eternal life. (Galatians 2:15–16, 21; 3:10–11) So why does Jesus direct this man to the commandments?
12. Jesus adds one more commandment to the young man’s list—and it breaks the camel’s back. What do you think Jesus is trying to get the man to see?
13. Jesus knows this man is mistaken about God, about the law, and even about himself. And yet, what are Jesus’ feelings for the man? (vs. 21) How do you think God feels about you, his child, even when you are caught in error?
14. The man goes away sad, evidently not prepared to give over this particular area of his life. What area of your life are you trying to keep off limits to God?

Day 5: Read Mark 10:17–31.

15. Jesus laments how hard it is for a rich man to enter the kingdom, but he doesn’t say why. Why do you think it’s so? Discuss how Jesus’ caution applies to you.
16. What is the good news about rich people, poor people, and every kind of people with respect to salvation? (vs. 27)
17. What is the wonderful promise to those who willingly give over every area of their lives to God’s lordship, and in particular to those who leave everything for the gospel? (vss. 29–30)

18. Why will “many who are first...be last, and the last first”? Think about this in the context of the passage.

19. In the light of the three little incidents in this week’s readings, examine your heart and to look upon the condition of your inner life rather than just your outer life.