

MARK 10:1-31

OBSERVATION: WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE SAY?

1. With what do the Pharisees test Jesus in verses 1-12?
2. How does Jesus respond to the Pharisees? What does he say about Moses' commandment concerning divorce? What is Jesus' answer to their question?
3. What clarification does Jesus give to his disciples regarding divorce?
4. What does Jesus say about the kingdom of God and children?
5. In verses 17-22, what are we told about the man who comes up to Jesus? What does he ask Jesus? What is his demeanor when he leaves Jesus?
6. What does Jesus say (v. 18) in response to the man's question? How does Jesus feel about the man?
7. What does Jesus say about entering the kingdom of God? How do the disciples respond?
8. What are we told about God in verse 27?

INTERPRETATION: WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE MEAN?

1. According to this passage, what is Jesus' view of divorce? What does the Bible teach about divorce and remarriage? (See also Matthew 19:1-12; 1 Corinthians 7:1-16; Romans 7:1-6; Deuteronomy 24:1ff).
2. How do you receive the kingdom of God like a child (v. 15)?
3. Why does Jesus answer the man's question as he does in verse 18? What point is Jesus trying to make? What is he saying about himself? What is he telling the man?
4. Compare the list of commandments that Jesus lists with the 10 commandments in Exodus 20:1-17. Which of the 10 commandments are missing? Is this significant, if so how?
5. Is it possible for the rich to enter the kingdom? If not, why not? If so, why?
6. Is it easy or hard to enter the kingdom of heaven? Explain your answer.
7. What does verse 31 mean?

APPLICATION: WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE MEAN TO ME/US?

1. How can you improve your marriage? What are the causes of divorce in a marriage? What would lead your marriage to a place of divorce?
2. In what ways would it be beneficial for you to be more like a child? (not more childish, but what characteristics of children is Jesus wanting you to take on)?
3. Are there possessions that you have that are more precious or valuable to you than following Jesus? Do you think that Jesus was unfair to the man in verse 21? Is it fair for him to ask you for first place in your life?
4. What blessings of God do you expect as a result of your following Jesus?

ACTION PLAN

Spend time personally and with others in coming up with an action plan inspired by your study. What in this passage compels you to desire a change, to move to action, to become more like Jesus? It could be a change in thinking, behavior, character. It could be internal or external. It could be personal or relational. Just don't leave studying the Bible as simply an intellectual exercise.